

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 1st October, at Sandakan, the wife of RICHARD SCOTT-ATKINSON, Superintendent of Posts and Telegraphs, of a daughter.

On the 16th October, at Seremban, the wife of F. J. WELD, of a daughter.

On the 17th October, at 12, North Szechuen Road, Shanghai, the wife of G. DIEDRICH, of a daughter.

On the 23rd October, at Shanghai, the wife of W. J. MILLER, of a son.

On the 24th October, at S. Joseph's Church, STEPHEN SCOTT BELLECK to MARGARET ISABEL, daughter of the late D. P. THOMAS, of Australia.

MARRIAGES.

On the 12th September, at Partick, Glasgow, DUNCAN GLASS, of Shanghai, to MARY BELL, fourth daughter of ALEXANDER ROBERTSON, solicitor, Glasgow.

On the 20th October, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. C. J. SYMONS, CHARLES ETHELBERT SPARKE to MARGARET ETHEL ANNIE WHITE.

DEATHS.

On the 14th September, at Helmsley, Yorkshire, HANNAH, wife of J. TROUP, late H.M.'s Consul-General at Yokohama, aged 58 years.

On the 2nd October, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, HEINRICH CARL MUELLER, aged 66 years.

On the 25th October, at No. 273, Woosung Road, Shanghai, C. A. DO ROZARIO, aged 33 years.

On the 27th October, at Rostock, Germany, A. SCHOENEMANN, partner of Messrs. F. Blackhead & Co., aged 60 years. (By wire).

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The American Mail per steamer *China* arrived on the 26th ult. and the German Mail of 29th September per H.A.L. steamer *Hamburg* arrived on the 29th ult. (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK

The Grand Stand at Hankow was completely burned down on the 30th ult. The Grand Stand adjoins the British Settlement, Hankow, within the walls at the east end of the City.

Japanese papers state that the British Minister at Seoul is urging Corea to give him a definite reply about the opening of Yong-ampho, as he wishes to lay the matter before his Government.

It is stated that two commissioners, one French and one Chinese, are going to Foochow from Peking to overhaul the arsenal accounts, which do not appear to have been altogether satisfactory, to the Chinese at least.

We received on Tuesday afternoon from the Colonial Secretary's Office the following notification:—The Colony having been free from bubonic plague for ten days, clean bills of health will be issued from this date.

The Japanese Minister to Siam, Mr. Inagaki has been promoted to the rank of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary Japan is the third Power to appoint a Minister Plenipotentiary to be resident in Bangkok.

Reuter in a telegram dated London, 28th October, says:—It is considered at Tokyo that the Russian fortification of Yong-ampho, now officially reported, may lead to important developments as infringing Korean integrity.

On the appointment of the Hon. F. H. May to the Acting Governorship after the departure of H.E. Sir H. A. Blake, the Hon. A. M. Thomson, Colonial Treasurer, will take the Acting Colonial Secretaryship of Hongkong.

Prince Adalbert of Prussia, who was to leave Genoa on the 28th ult. on board the German Mail *König Albert*, has received orders to join H.G.M.S. *Hertha*, on the 27th November in Hongkong. He will do service during the next two years on this station.

It is said that six hundred Japanese residents of Dalny are making preparations for immediate departure to Cheloo in the event of war. At Port Arthur, on the contrary, it is alleged that, according to orders issued by Viceroy Alexieff, the Japanese residents will be collected and sent away by a foreign steamer in the event of hostilities breaking out.

The *Supao* prisoners, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, have now been in custody for nearly four months, and as yet no date has been fixed for their trial. All except one are detained at the Central Police Station. The other is isolated at Hongkew. Surely by this time some arrangement ought to have been made about the trial of the accused. It is opposed to all ideas of justice to keep alleged offenders imprisoned for so long a period.

Reuter's agency at Tokyo wires that the Japanese Premier, being interviewed by Reuter's agent, said that Japan was pursuing negotiations with Russia in strict accordance with the spirit of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, which aims at the preservation of peace and the *status quo*. The Premier presumed that Russia was actuated by the same peaceful spirit and that there was nothing in the present situation to warrant alarm.

Mr. R. W. Mansfield, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul-General at Shanghai, wrote on the 18th ult. to the *N.-C. Daily News*:—I am authorised by His Majesty's Minister in Peking to state that there is no ground for the statement in Reuter's telegram that there has been an attempt to explode the magazine in the British Legation. A store-room was broken open and a variety of articles stolen, nearly all of which have been recovered from the thieves.

Last week two large one-hundred and twenty pounder breech-loading Armstrong guns were transported to Woosung from the Kiangnan arsenal under escort of a force of Chinese gunners. The *N.-C. Daily News* says that this is a part of the scheme of the late notorious Kang Yi for the refortification of Woosung, drawn up by him in the winter of 1899 just before the Boxer troubles. Viceroy Wei of Nanking has now taken upon himself to work out Kang Yi's scheme.

According to a Tokyo despatch to the *Osaka Asahi*, the Japanese Government's call for estimates for a new battleship has been responded to by the six principal shipbuilding firms in England, and the estimate sent in by Messrs. Vickers is reported to have been the lowest. The Japanese authorities will therefore conclude a formal contract with the above-named firm at an early date. The battleship to be constructed will be of 16,250 tons displacement, and is expected to be ready for sea in 30 months.

It will be remembered that on the 10th ult. the leading members of the Chinese community of Hongkong resolved to present a farewell address to H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake on the occasion of his departure from the Colony to take up the Governorship of Ceylon. The European community has also decided to present an address, and it has now been agreed to make the address a joint one. A committee of four, including members of the Legislative Council (unofficial) and the Chamber of Commerce, have been deliberating upon the form of the address, which will be open to signature by the residents of Hongkong when it has been drawn up. There will be no other address, we believe, except of course such as may be presented by members of the Civil Service to H.E. the Governor.

The *Asahi* publishes the following telegram dated, Peking, 10th October:—The wives of the foreign Ambassadors and Legation officials were received by Their Majesties the Emperor and the Dowager Empress at the Summer Palace to-day. It is believed that they are to be invited to a garden party. The Russian Minister to Peking was absent yesterday on account of indisposition, and it has been noticed that neither the British Minister nor any of his assistants presented themselves at the palace either yesterday or to-day. The British Minister's absence is attributed to the *Supao* affair. His action is commented upon in various ways, there being those in the diplomatic circle who view it favourably and others who view it unfavourably. The diplomats, however, admit that the garden party at the Summer Palace is always cold and too formal. His Majesty the Emperor seemed to be in better health than he was at the Spring presentation; but the health of the Dowager Empress seemed to be waning.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

(Daily Press, 24th October.)

If we were to judge by REUTER's telegrams from London alone, it would not be possible to hope that war between Japan and Russia could be averted for more than a few days, or weeks at most. Every item of intelligence concerning the Far East which reaches us from home seems to convey an immediate threat, except perhaps the despatch of the 23rd instant which mentions Admiral ALEXIEFF's expected visit to St. Petersburg early next month. It is true that the latter message says that "the crisis in China will possibly be delayed thereby," but this appears to be an error, for there is no more crisis in China, capable of delay, now than there was a year ago. If Admiral ALEXIEFF visits St. Petersburg it seems certain that his chief object will be to seek advice on the state of relations between Russia and Japan, not between Russia and China. But though the new Russian Viceroy's journey may indicate at least a temporary continuance of peace, it cannot be denied that the news of Japan's instructions to the steamship and railway companies, as well as to the gunboats about to go into winter quarters at Newchwang, betray an anxious feeling on the part of our allies that it will not do to pause because of the advent of winter. The doubling of LLOYD's insurance rates to the Far East on the 22nd instant shows what is thought of the situation at home. On the other hand, messages from the North continue to insist upon the unlikelihood of war, and to reiterate the hope that all will pass off peacefully. The amount of news, indeed, vouchsafed to us from the North is both scanty and devoid of excitement. It is plain that neither Japan nor Russia wishes to cause any alarm by betraying unusual business in military and naval preparations. But this fact in itself may possibly be considered ominous, seeing that all outside observers appear to be able to detect extraordinary exertions in both countries. It is only natural that, if either Japan or Russia is actually getting ready with a view to war, that country will also make every endeavour to conceal the matter from the world in general and its rival in particular. The truth appears to be that both nations are doing their utmost to be prepared for war, if it should be found inevitable; but neither is satisfied as to the right moment to strike, or even whether it is worth striking at all. It has been said that Russia has only been waiting the arrival of naval reinforcements. But Russia has most assuredly not been putting things off until the arrival of winter, when she will only have one ice-free port, viz., Port Arthur. If she were to wait so long, she would at least contrive, if possible, to tide matters over until the thaw of spring sets Vladivostock free again. The good sense of both peoples may avoid conflict altogether as we hope it will. If this is not to be, the sooner the struggle comes the better. The present state of doubt is paralysing to the whole of the Far East.

(Daily Press, 30th October.)

By way of a change, REUTER's telegrams published to-day bring us news of a peaceful nature with regard to the Russo-Japanese situation, which, coupled with the intelligence of the demobilisation of all the Bulgarian reserves, seems to point to the prospect of a winter without war. At one time it looked very probable that, at one or other end of that vast region known as "the East," hostilities must break out, and the only question appeared to be which was

the more likely, supposing that we should be lucky enough to escape two wars at once. Both wars would have been a serious menace to the peace of Europe, but for Great Britain a breach in the Far East would of course have been infinitely more serious. In spite of the agitation of a small section at home, hostilities in the Balkans could concern Britain but little. Naturally we desire a peaceful state of affairs there, and can only feel horror at such scenes as have been witnessed in Macedonia during the past months. But the partition of Macedonia would really affect us very little. It might almost be argued that, since we are now quite firmly established in Egypt, even the seizure of Constantinople could hurt us but infinitesimally. In the Far East matters stand very differently. The question at issue between Japan and Russia seems to be the predominance in the whole of the North-east of Asia. In the first place, the mastery of the Gulf of Pechili is at stake. Russia's possession of Korea, or even of Korea as far south as Seoul only, would give her an indisputable pre-eminence, overawing China and commanding the northern seas. As it seems inevitable that we must consider Russia a hostile Power, such a position would reduce our foothold in North China to nothing and leave the Chinese Emperor a vassal of the Tsar. On the other hand, with Japan installed safely in Korea, Russia would be outflanked in Manchuria, and held in check with regard to her aggressive conduct toward her neighbours. REUTER states in his telegram of the 27th instant, on the authority of the London Standard, that official information has been received in Berlin that the Tsar NICHOLAS and Count LAMSDORFF have approved of the drafts of a Russo-Japanese Convention providing a peaceful compromise for all differences. This information is said to have reached Berlin alike from Tokyo and from St. Petersburg. How it comes that, if correct, it has not reached the other capitals of Europe, we cannot say. We can only hope that it is true. No one can more sincerely desire the continuance of peace in the Far East than Great Britain, and we can feel confidence that Japan will have concluded no agreement which in any way affects her national honour. She has acted throughout the crisis in a manner which would be exemplary in any nation, and we trust that she has received the reward she so well deserves in a fair and honest convention which will set at rest the various differences between herself and her neighbour. War might ruin both nations; peace should enable them to advance towards that prosperity of which both stand so much in need commercially.

THE OPENING OF CHINA.

(Daily Press, 31st October.)

It was with some curiosity that we read that last week a meeting of the Shanghai Chinese Y.M.C.A. defeated a resolution to the effect that "the opening of the whole of China to international commerce under existing trade conditions and precedents would be beneficial to China." It is true that it was not exactly a vote of the society which threw out the resolution, but a judgment upon the arguments advanced for and against. Nevertheless the decision is hardly one which would have been looked for. The chief arguments advanced against the opening up of the country were:—the flocking in of undesirable people; the creation of hostility toward foreigners, followed by riots and the consequent loss of territory to China; the purchase of land and

building of houses by foreigners, taking away China's sovereign rights; and, finally, the inevitability of partition. It was also advanced that the mere investing of foreign capital in China impaired her sovereign rights, and that with China thrown open "dumping" of unnecessary foreign goods under the low tariff would ensue. It may be seen that those arguments vary a good deal in their cogency. It does not seem probable that large numbers of undesirables would care to penetrate into the interior of China. They are in the coast ports already, and they are not likely to desire to wander far from European luxuries, as they esteem them. As for the state of feeling which might be produced toward foreigners, a gradual accustoming of the natives to contact with foreigners is bound to come about. Of course, if the whole of China were suddenly thrown open and foreigners of all sorts were to pour in, trouble might reasonably be expected, but this is not what we should describe as "the opening of China to international commerce under existing trade conditions and precedents." The purchase of land and building of houses by foreigners in the interior would, it is true, have some effect upon China's sovereign rights as long as extraterritoriality exists in China and foreign money cannot be invested in China without a certain amount of infringement of China's rights. But China cannot take a dignified place in the world save by progress, and that progress is not going to come from within but must be bought at a price. The question for China to settle is, how much is it worth paying? As to partition being the inevitable result of the opening up of the whole country, the very reverse is surely the truth. Had Manchuria been open to foreigners it would not now be practically a part of Russia. It is because they were closed places that Kiaochau, Weihaiwei, and Kwanchauwan are no longer Chinese. An open port is China's great safeguard against aggression. If Moukden, Tatungkou, and Antung are really to be opened, in accordance with the new commercial treaties between China and the United States and Japan, then there will be at least a vestige of China's sovereignty over Manchuria left. The future safety and integrity of the Chinese Empire really depends on the abandonment of the policy of exclusion. This does not mean that China ought suddenly to throw the doors wide open. What is required is that the principal towns which form trading centres shall be gradually, but not too gradually, made open "ports" under similar conditions to those already existing. This removes the question of their seizure by any one nation from one between China and that nation to the international class. There can be little doubt what would have happened at Amoy in 1900, had Japan then a free hand. Happily our Allies listened to reason and withdrew their force from the international settlement without delay. The only sound advice that friends of China can give her is to open the principal towns in every province to foreign trade, for this will preserve the provinces to China. If they are not opened under China's rule, they will pass from that rule, slowly perhaps, but surely. Foreigners cannot of course claim that they do not hope to profit very largely by the opening up of China; but at least they can say sincerely that China herself will be the greatest gainer. The present unhappy government of the Empire is doing much to impair its integrity; prolonged for many more years and maintaining an exclusive policy to the utmost, it will finish

by terminating the history of China as a nation. Needless to insist, this would be the greatest catastrophe possible for the peace of the East. The scramble for the fragments would be terrible, and if anyone thinks that the partition of China could be final let him read M. PIERRE LEROY BEAULIEU's book *La Renovation de l'Asie*. The French writer there puts the case as admirably as it can be put. Did his fellow countrymen only listen to him, one factor in the restlessness of Far Eastern politics would be removed. For the sake of the Powers, as well as of China herself, it must earnestly be hoped that China will contrive to hold together until such time as better and more enlightened rulers may govern from Peking or whatever city may then be the head of the vast empire.

THE NINGHAI TROUBLES.

(Daily Press, 29th October.)

A certain amount of discussion and correspondence has appeared in the Shanghai papers lately, particularly in the *North-China Daily News* and *L'Echo de Chine*, with regard to troubles at Ninghai, Chekiang province. Prominence was given to the affair by the killing of a Roman Catholic priest (we do not know what nationality) and the burning of a chapel by a mob under a certain WANG SHI-TONG, a man who made himself notorious at Ninghai during the Boxer rebellion by his animosity towards converts. It seems that the Roman Catholics have in consequence demanded the execution of the Ninghai magistrate as being responsible for the crime; so, at least, a correspondent of the *Daily News* says. But, as Mr. SIAO, the acting magistrate, has only recently taken charge of the post, and has in other respects an excellent reputation, that correspondent makes a protest on his behalf, and a writer on the Roman Catholic side appears to bear witness to his innocence, in a letter addressed to the *Daily News*. The facts of the case, as far as we can gather them from the various accounts, are worth noting as an example of the difficulties attending missionary work in China.

This man WANG, as we have said, made himself conspicuous in 1900 by pillaging and burning at Ninghai, though he did not actually cause the death of any missionary—perhaps only because he did not come across one. For his outrageous conduct toward converts he was condemned to death; his sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life, but he was never arrested by the Chinese officials, and so continued his persecution of Christians until at last he put a climax on his misdeeds by this murder of a priest, the slaughter of at least one convert, and the pillage and destruction of native Christian houses. At the time, it appears, there were no soldiers in Ninghai, and the inhabitants were inclined to side with WANG. The magistrate SIAO has now put a price of \$3,000 on his head; and Governor NIEH has put another \$2,000, beside telegraphing to Ningpo ordering the punishment of the mandarins, civil and military alike, for their want of diligence. It does not therefore seem that any lack of attention can justly be charged against the higher Chinese officials in connection with this affair, and we cannot believe that the head of the Acting Magistrate SIAO has been demanded. The arch-criminal WANG (who, by the way, was one of the *litterati* class before he became a brigand leader) seems to have become an

enemy of all Roman Catholics owing to the fact that some three years ago he quarrelled with some converts in his own village, who got an order for his arrest. As this was not carried out, the local priest brought influence to bear on the Chinese magistrate, who then arrested WANG. He was rescued, however, by a mob, and the magistrate promptly resigned. His successor, taking a lesson from what had happened, favoured the Romanists greatly, with the result that converts increased very rapidly, and, as the *Daily News* correspondent puts it, the chapel became like a yamen. It is alleged that the priest was not very discriminating, and his protection over his converts was abused by the unscrupulous, who used his influence for all that it was worth. In consequence, those who were not converts became very bitter, and the field for the ruffian WANG was fully prepared. Then the magistrate who had allowed the Roman Catholics and alleged Romanists to have matters so much their own way had to go to Hangchow to assist at the provincial examinations, and the unfortunate SIAO arrived to see a culmination of the troubles, with the termination stated.

The whole story illustrates a most difficult problem in connection with missionary enterprise in China. Nothing but a direct command to missionaries to abstain altogether from any interference in the secular affairs of their converts can do ought to check such incidents as that at Ninghai. There is already, we are glad to see, a move in this direction, but the Roman Catholics appear to lag behind. Surely events cannot have left them doubtful of the unwisdom, the absolute criminality, of encouraging converts to look to the priest as a helper in over-riding the laws of China.

THE POLICE AND CRIME.

(Daily Press, 24th October.)

The Police Court records of the past week or so have been marked by the number of sentences to the stocks, to such an extent indeed that the accommodation of this kind in the Colony was on one day this week taxed beyond its capacity, as we recorded at the time. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH, our Police Magistrate, is taking a very strong line in this matter, and is evidently a thorough believer in this form of punishment. He stated at the Magistracy on Thursday that offenders placed in the stocks are now photographed while in that humiliating position, and that in the event of their again appearing before a Magistrate the photographs and a description of their misdeeds will be forwarded to their native villages. Now there are many who do not believe in the efficacy of the stocks as a means of checking crime, and we cannot ourselves feel entirely satisfied as to the amount of the effect. But we must recognise that Mr. SERCOMBE SMITH is making a conscientious endeavour to carry out his theories and to meet the excess of petty criminality in the Colony, of which all here have had to complain so bitterly of late. The subject is one to which we have had to allude very frequently, not because we do not believe that the authorities are not striving hard to cope with the situation with the limited means at their command, but because it seems to us that no sufficient effort is being made to convince the Colonial Office people that these means are too limited. It has long been a most patent fact that the police force is not large enough to perform its duties

properly. Is the Colonial Office kept constantly aware of this? It is well known in the Colony that the detective staff is lamentably inefficient. Is this known at home? There should be no excuse for ignorance in Downing Street, since the authorities in Hongkong can certainly give information, if they cannot stir the inertness of those at headquarters. It may often happen, as we believe it does in certain matters of police out here, that the local Government is in accord with the general wishes, but, owing to the attitude of the Colonial Office, is unable to act as it would desire. But surely in so grave a matter of the under-policing of the Colony, a strong appeal from the Hongkong Government could not be disregarded. It is useless to argue that we may be involved in heavier expenses if we are to be better guarded by the law. Hongkong is not excessively taxed, and could not object to paying a little more, if the reasonable safety of person and property could be guaranteed. A sufficiently large detective and police force would prevent the commission of a proportion of petty crimes as well as some of the more serious ones, and so would tend to check the now apparently unavoidable overcrowding of the Gaol. It is plain that something must be done to stop this overcrowding. To build a larger prison might suggest itself as an obvious remedy, but it is better still to give less opportunities for the semi-criminal classes to yield to temptation and develop into full-blown criminals, to live in comparative comfort, for the time being, at the expense of Hongkong. We are compelled at present, very much against our will, and with very little apparent effect, to try to cure the anti-social tendencies of some of the most worthless characters from the mainland of South China. Yet there is still extant the rather antiquated saying about prevention being better than cure. It looks also distinctly less expensive in the long run.

BELLEVILLE BOILERS.

(Daily Press, 27th October.)

It is a little over a year ago since we were told that the Belleville boiler, up to then the principal boiler in use in His Majesty's Navy, was gone for ever, the Boiler Committee appointed by Government having condemned it utterly. We had been prepared for this by the constant reports of the breakdown of Belleville-engined vessels, and so when it was heard that the Belleville was to be discarded no wonder could be felt outside service and engineering circles at the decision. According to the latest mail papers, however, more surprising things might happen than a reconsideration of the matter. It seems that one of the factors which have made this possible was the recent journey of two cruisers out to this station on trooping duties. Last spring we saw in Hongkong H.M.S.S. *Europa* and *Spartiate*. It was little suspected by most people in the Colony that there was any special significance in their visit to us, apart from their work as troopers. It seems that there was a good deal more. It is now stated that Rear-Admiral MAY, Controller of the Navy, specially selected these two Belleville cruisers to send out to China and back, under war conditions, as a really reliable test of the capacities of the condemned boilers. The result was that each of the two vessels steamed 25,000 miles and returned home without exhibiting any kind of defect. In the case of the *Spartiate*, her boilers were proved to be as good as new after her long

nip, for she joined in the naval manœuvres and altogether put together a steaming record of 5,400 miles without a break down. In the *Daily Chronicle* Mr. FRED T. JANE, whose authority as a naval expert no one is likely to dispute, writes very warmly on the "rehabilitation of the Belleville," and marshals the facts of the *Spartiate's* and *Europa's* achievements at far greater length than we can give the space for here. He has been all along a strong adherent of the Belleville boiler, but this must not blind us to the strength of the figures adduced in support of his case. And Mr. JANE is not alone, but has a great mass of support in the engineering branch of the Royal Navy. In fact he does not hesitate to say in his article in the *Daily Chronicle* that the engineers, practical men, in the face of the adverse verdict of the Boiler Committee (composed of theoretical experts), believed in their Bellevilles, and now they have shown their ability and the correctness of their opinion. The *Spartiate* and *Europa*, continues Mr. JANE, have done what no cylindrical boilered ships could attempt to do, and probably what no ships with other types of water-tube boilers could do, for other types have not the coal-economy so essential to this nation. Yet all the new British warships are being given different experimental types—in several cases types that even the Boiler Committee has condemned since its first recommendation of them—and Mr. JANE fears that we are plunging into an abyss of experiment, making wholesale installations of boilers that may or may not succeed, and, succeed how they may, cannot conceivably do better than the Bellevilles can do. He attributes this to political reasons, urging that, despite the fact that that stalwart Radical, Sir WILLIAM ALLAN, is a leading man in the anti-Belleville party, the original sin of the Belleville boiler is that it was introduced by Lord SPENCER's administration. We can hardly credit this argument of Mr. JANE, and we may point out that he himself cannot be quite free from political bias, since he is about to contest Portsmouth at the next General Election—as an Independent, it is true, but still as an anti-Government man as far as naval affairs are concerned. Nevertheless, his article in defence of the Belleville boiler must be duly considered by all interested in the question, for there is no doubt he represents the opinion of hundreds of engineers in the Navy, who are themselves precluded from using their voices in the matter. Whether there is a chance of the restoration of the Belleville boiler or not, we could not attempt to say. It seems at least a great pity that it has been entirely discarded, if it is true that practical (as opposed to theoretical) experts have so strong a belief in its merits as Mr. JANE, writing over his own name and thereby risking his reputation as a critic, does not hesitate to proclaim that they do.

C. E. Wharton was tried at the British Consulate, Swatow, on the 16th ult. on the charge of killing a native watchman attacked to the Imperial Customs Service. The Judge who tried the case was His Honour F. S. A. Bourne, and the Crown Advocate Mr. W. A. C. Platt. The prisoner was at the time of the assault a tidewater in the Imperial Customs, and had a good record, holding medals for South Africa and North China. He pleaded guilty to the charge, which was virtually one of manslaughter, as the medical evidence showed that the death was only indirectly the result of the assault, the man dying of tetanus following blood-poisoning. Wharton was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

A PROPOSED ANGLO-RUSSIAN JOURNAL.

(Daily Press, 28th October.)

We mentioned some time ago the report that the Russians contemplated the publication at Port Arthur of a paper in the English language, designed to influence English readers in favour of Russia. A correspondent in Port Arthur writes to us now that a certain amount of discussion on the subject has been proceeding between the *Novoe Vremya* of St. Petersburg and the Port Arthur newspapers. The Japan correspondent of the *Novoe Vremya* has written strongly in the columns of the journal which he represents. He holds that, while an Anglo-Russian journal is eminently desirable, Port Arthur is not the proper place in which to publish it. Neither in Port Arthur nor in Dalny, he says, will there be for a long time to come any considerable number of English or Americans. Port Arthur, moreover, is too far from the centres of Anglo-Japanese life, and any attack on Russia in either the English or the Japanese Press could not be answered in a Port Arthur paper until too late. We do not gather whether the *Novoe Vremya's* correspondent would have the proposed paper published in Japan or Shanghai rather than in Port Arthur, but we have seen Shanghai suggested somewhere. The Port Arthur papers, naturally enough, claim that their town is the right place, and they lay stress on the growing Japanese population, whom they expect to read the Anglo-Russian paper.

The project to enlist English and Japanese sympathy toward Russia by means of a journal printed in English, but Russian in sentiment, strikes us as interesting, but it looks as if it would be a costly experiment. Doubtless the Russian Government might be induced to subsidise the paper to a certain extent. But is it to be imagined that much good can be done? Neither Britain nor Japan desires any more expression of Russia's goodwill and benevolent intentions. It is to deeds that they look, and as long as Russia's deeds correspond so ill with her words, so long the prevalent feelings can only be distrust and dislike. No newspaper, however well edited and well supplied with news, can change this. Fair speech does not go well with treachery and unscrupulous aggression. If the Anglo-Russian journal is going to try to explain away these traits of Russian policy, then it will indeed attempt a stupendous task.

A MARTYRS' MEMORIAL FOR SHANGHAI.

(Daily Press, 28th October.)

We have received from Shanghai a copy of a circular letter signed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop GRAVES making a statement and appeal on behalf of a Martyrs' Memorial in Shanghai. We gather therefrom that the missionaries of China have resolved to erect in Shanghai, as being the missionary and commercial headquarters of China, a large Memorial Hall and Missionary Union Building, for the use of the Chinese and missionaries of all societies. This Hall is intended, so the letter states, as a witness that China has a martyr Church, as an expression of the unity of the Church of all nations, and as an expression of gratitude for the glory of martyrdom. It is expected that £50,000 will be required, of which China is expected to contribute £10,000. An appeal is therefore made to the churches of Asia and Africa, who the

Rt. Rev. Bishop believes will be deeply interested and will cheerfully contribute. We have been asked to draw attention to the appeal, and we do so. Nevertheless we feel compelled to state that we think the money might be much better spent. We do not believe that even all missionaries are in favour of the scheme. Like other people, they too can see that £50,000 is a large sum to spend on the erection of a building of doubtful utility. If it be desirable to record in stone the fact that 188 missionaries and children and some thousands (it is claimed) of native Christians perished in the Boxer rebellion, surely something less pretentious than a building costing £50,000 might be chosen. We do not profess to criticise the desire to exalt the glory of martyrdom, though we remember that hosts of earlier and greater martyrs have been obliged to dispense with £50,000 buildings. Can those who drew up this appeal to the churches of Asia and Africa think of no better way of expending so much money?

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

Hongkong has been threatened during the past week by one of the many wandering typhoons which cause anxiety about this time of the year to all whose business brings them in any way in connection with the sea—not to mention architects and engineers. But beyond the appearance of black emblems on the *Tamar* and a certain amount of delay to steamers, nothing has come of it. Everyone in consequence is much relieved, for no one cares to see much of what Joseph Conrad in his recent book *Typhoon* calls "the real thing," "something formidable and swift, like the sudden smashing of a vial of wrath." (*Typhoon*, by the way, is well worth reading and should interest those who have sailed in the China Seas.) We may congratulate ourselves that last week the real thing kindly kept away. The storm centre appears to have passed away to the west of the Colony and to have turned in the direction of Hainan.

The tramway is at last beginning to make itself seen in the centre of the city, and the blocking up of the road round the south-western corner of the Cricket Ground has called the attention even of those who travel least afield to the fact that the revolution in Hongkong's traffic is steadily approaching. Already the north entrance of the Bank is, so to speak, in a state of siege, and we shall begin to imagine to ourselves how the streets will appear with tram-cars running up and down them. We need not look forward to the disappearance of the ricksha-puller, that bugbear of residents afflicted with nerves; but his powers of lung and speed will not be so much in evidence as they are now. Few probably will regret this, for he has not many friends except the unwashed coolie whom he loves to give a ride in his ricksha between his cleaner and more lucrative fares.

Although the fabric of the new Law Courts does not show up for much, it is some satisfaction to note that building operations are now going on, if not at a great pace yet still sensibly progressing. I hear that Sir Henry Blake will lay the foundation stone on Thursday, the 12th prox. This will, I imagine, be the last function of a public nature that His Excellency will take part in before his departure for Ceylon.

Good progress I notice is being made with the fine wide road in course of construction across the King's Park, Kowloon, starting from the Praya at Hunghom and leading to Yaumati. Anyone who has observed the scores of people who hourly use this short cut between the two villages will appreciate the need that has existed for a good road. Lest this note may tempt many to go and "look see," let me whisper that it is not advisable to approach by the Hunghom end, where there is an urgent call for the activities of the sanitary officials.

There was a rumour current lately to the effect that the military authorities were weary of their bargain in the Mount Austin Barracks and desired to be rid of it—at a good price. But I think this was only a rumour and doubtless originated in the necessity laid upon the War Department of spending a very substantial sum on repairs. I note that scaffolding is up and a large section of the roof is receiving attention. It is said that something like £20,000 is to be laid out upon this property. The building is a large one, and repairs at the Peak must necessarily always be costly owing to the damp.

The typhoon-like blow of the last few days having wantonly interrupted the spell of gloriously fine weather we have recently been enjoying, a short note on a rainy subject will not seem so much out of place now as it would have done a week ago. I notice in a Straits paper a letter from a correspondent who pours the vials of his wrath upon the heads of the owners of the rickshas at Penang who furnish their vehicles with a cheap and unsatisfactory substitute for waterproof aprons. We are no better off in this respect in Hongkong. The ricksha "waterproof apron" is a delusion and a snare, and in a shower of rain is of little more use than a piece of calico. The Penang sufferer invokes the aid of the Superintendent of Jinrikshas. Perhaps some pushful vendor of genuine waterproof material might accomplish better results for the public.

The Blake Pier is becoming a somewhat popular place of resort in the evenings for the daily toilers of this city, who, after the day's work is over, repair thither for a life-renewing mouthful of ozone. In view of this fact the remark of a lady who was waiting for a launch last evening on that wharf is very pertinent: "Why don't they have seats here?" she said, and many bystanders were ready to echo "Why, oh! why?" Timber is cheap, and a few well-made benches, while costing but little, would add considerably to the comfort of the many who daily have cause to visit the wharf, many of whom have to wait about for considerable periods for the advent of launches to take them off to steamers, or the arrival of friends from the same.

In this connection there is an excellent chance for the authorities to add to the revenue, by farming out the seating at a yearly sum, the farmer having the right to place a number of seats on the wharf and charge a small rental for same for use per hour, under a necessary stipulation that the seats shall be limited to a certain number, so as not to block the traffic for arriving and departing passengers. This has been done with great success in Manila and other cities in the East, and has proved a considerable boon and would undoubtedly do so here. A charge of even two cents per seat per evening would bring in a good return, and at the same time would be prohibitive, as far as the objectionable and undesirable are concerned. And this done, why not a band? The landing stages are well in towards the shore end of the wharf, so that there can be no reasonable objection to the presence of a band at the outer end of the wharf, on one or two evenings a week. The pleasure to the many would be great, while any objections raised could scarcely be reasonable.

The beachcomber nuisance is one of the most serious problems that confront the seaports of the Far East, and no place suffers from this class of undesirables more than Hongkong does. Periodically every other port in these parts seems to arouse itself and shake from its shoulders the incubus that it feels to be settling thereon, but not so Hongkong. Hongkong indeed is a sort of dumping-ground for the refuse of all other places. We have no remittance men like Australia or Japan. Our parasitical population lives solely on the labours of the honest workers. In a large international seaport like ours it is of course impossible to avoid having a certain number of unfortunates who find themselves "on the beach," through no fault of their own, perhaps; but the authorities should prevent the unlimited immigration of deported scamps from other towns who lounge around the hotels seeking whom they may devour and constituting a menace to the public well-being, as well as

greatly lowering European prestige in the eyes of the Chinese.

BANYAN.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Port Arthur, 6th October.

RUSSIA'S DEFIANCE.

The following is a translation of an article in a recent number of the *Novi Krai*:

"The phantom of war with its obscure but menacing outline again hovers over the befogged heads of the Japanese statesmen, the Japanese *Genro*, and the Japanese journalists, keeping them in a continual nightmare and depriving them of all possibility of exactly understanding their own policy. The mental frame of mind of all Japan is expressed in the curious and heart-affrightening question: What will happen on the 8th of October? But this matter which troubles so much the young Great Power which longs so ardently to try its strength and its luck in the arena of war, and which forces it, much against its will of course, to discard its pacific tone for a warlike one, this matter cannot ruffle in the least the ordinary calm with which events in the Far East are regarded by the mature Great Power whose path lies straight before it and whose intentions are clear and plain. Only a sense of the righteousness of its actions and a confidence in its strength give Russia the right and the ability to witness calmly the noisy vanity of Japan.

WHAT DOES JAPAN WANT?

"What does Japan want in this connection? Has she any right to offer advice with regard to any agreement between Russia and China? Russia is at present in Manchuria because she is the owner of a gigantic railway undertaking, carried out in conjunction with China. Russia occupies Manchuria because she has a right to protect her interests there in consequence of the unfriendly action begun by the Chinese at Blagovestchensk. Russia retains her troops in Manchuria because she is not certain that tranquillity can be preserved in that country without the help of these soldiers; and she does this in spite of all the hostile feelings of other countries in this matter, but principally of Japan. All these causes lead Russia to desire to conclude an agreement with China, and only with China. The observance of this agreement will be guaranteed only by the contracting parties, Russia and China, and will not admit of any guarantees being offered or any friendly offices tendered by other Powers. What right has Japan to raise her voice in this affair which concerns only China and Russia?

JAPAN'S INTERESTS.

"The economic interests of Japan in Manchuria? But these interests can be made to play the same rôle wherever Japan is at liberty to dump her surplus population, whether in Formosa, Corea, the Philippines, Australia &c.; in a word in every country which the Japanese may choose to send their emigrants to. Formosa! Here is a territory to which Japan may legitimately send the overflow of her population, but there it is necessary to work, there money is required, and it is not therefore the kind of country the youngest of the Great Powers wants. It would be more convenient for her to send her sons to a country that has been made ready and opened up by Russian money, by Russian blood, and by the sweat of Russian brows—Manchuria.

COREA.

"To Corea Japan is also free to send her emigrants. Russia will not hinder her so long of course as she does not proceed to enslave the Korean nation, and to make any attempt on the Korean sovereignty. Let Japan attempt to put forward her plea of economic interest on account of emigration in the Philippines or Australia and she will find how, contrary to the hospitable practice of Russia, other nations receive uninvited guests. The sensible part of the Japanese Press, the *Kobe Chronicle* for example, already sees this and the European Press (*Berliner Tageblatt*, *Manch*, and *Alg Zeitung*) clearly points out that Russia can now say *à propos* of her position in Manchuria: "J'y suis et j'y reste."

"J'Y SUIS ET J'Y RESTE."

"Yes, undoubtedly, the fatal moment has come, and it finds Russia standing firm in Manchuria, fully armed for the protection of her interests there, interests which are dear to her as her life-blood. No threat will be able to disturb the *status quo* in Manchuria on or after the 8th October.

The *N.-C. Daily News* Tokyo correspondent telegraphed on the 22nd inst:—

"The leading Japanese journal interprets the sentiment of the nation as follows:—Concerning Manchuria nothing is asked beyond Russia's discharge of her treaty promises of military evacuation and the open door. Japan does not object to Russia's retention of Port Arthur and Dalny, or to her guarding the railways, which are welcome factors in material progress. Concerning Corea, Japan will not suffer any country to lay a finger thereon, since her special position there is generally recognised. Japan sincerely desires peace, but not peace at any price; and she reminds Russia that Japan in this matter is the mouthpiece of many nations. The diplomatic situation is unchanged at Tokyo; the negotiations are progressing. Baseless rumours are current of the despatch of Japanese troops to Corea."

The following letter addressed to the *Japan Times* by Mr. E. J. Harrison, as to the London *Daily Mail's* information regarding the Russian proposal to Japan of Manchuria for Corea principle, which has come already to your readers' notice, is self-explanatory:—"Dear Sir,—I wish it to be distinctly understood that, although I am the duly appointed Tokyo correspondent of the London *Daily Mail*, I am in no way responsible for the asinine telegram which was sent to that journal by some irresponsible idiot, and cabled back by Reuter a few days ago. As a matter of fact the message did not state the exact geographic source of the *Mail's* information; it might just as well have emanated from Yokohama, Kobe, or Nagasaki as from Tokyo. However, my simple denial is amply sufficient." The regular Yokohama correspondent of the same paper also denies the responsibility for the telegram.

A Chefoo letter quoted by the *N.-C. Daily News* reports that since the 1st instant every native junk and steamer arriving at that port from Port Arthur and Dalny is filled with native passengers, who have left those ports owing to the receipt of sure information that war is imminent between Japan and Russia. It is estimated that from the 1st to the 20th instant, an average of about 180 male and female refugees a day have come to Chefoo from Port Arthur and Dalny, to escape the horrors of war. Many Japanese traders are also said to have left the Russian ports about the same time.

The *Kobe Chronicle* of the 20th inst. says:—It is generally believed the Japanese Government is in receipt of a message from Port Arthur through Baron Rosen of a very important character, but its nature has not been divulged. The telegram, which is said to be of great length, was received by the Russian Legation on Sunday morning. At 9 o'clock yesterday morning the Second Secretary in the Russian Legation attended the Foreign Office, in order, it is supposed, to communicate the reply of Admiral Alexieff. This appears somewhat doubtful, as such an important communication would presumably be presented by Baron Rosen in person. There is, however, good reason to believe that nothing definite will be settled until the Conference reported by Reuter to-day is held at St. Petersburg.

The same paper states that investigations made by the Japanese Government into the present force of Russian troops at Vladivostok and in Manchuria have resulted in the following estimate being obtained:—At Port Arthur there are about 25,000 troops, Liaoyang contains 8,000, Harbin 4,500, Fengwhang 800, Antong 200, Nicolsk 30,000, Chita 25,000, and Vladivostok 7,000, in addition to 2,000 at various places in Kirin and about 10,000 guarding the Chinese Eastern Railway, making a total force of about 110,000. The troops at Vladivostok are stated to be quartered in the houses of private individuals, and the various detachments are frequently relieved, so that it is very difficult to ascertain their strength with precision. It

dissentient. But no one present had the is believed, however, that the number of troops is not so large as generally declared by Russia. The *Mainichi* has a Tokyo despatch to the effect that police are stationed at the three entrances of the Russian Legation in Tokyo. All who approach the entrance are closely questioned, and whenever Baron Rosen leaves the Legation he is guarded by a policeman.

The *Kokumin*, a Japanese vernacular journal, has the following:—The conference in the Premier's official residence of the five Senior Statesmen and four Cabinet Ministers is believed to have been for the purpose of reconsidering immediate means to deal with the pending situation, in view of subsequent developments. Our general policy, decided in the conference before the Throne on the 23rd June last, has not been altered, and the friendly negotiations with Russia are still to be continued. Our aims in view are, in short, first, that Korea shall be entirely under Japan's influence; and, secondly, that while recognising the Muscovite arrangements in Manchuria, China's sovereignty shall be allowed to operate perfectly and the open door be actually effected there. The Tokyo Government do not wish to proceed to hostilities, but they are quite ready to meet any contingencies, at this critical juncture, for the settlement of our national fate. What we want is general peace in the Far East—peace with honour, but without undue sacrifice. Our claims are only fair and reasonable, and should Russia refuse to entertain them *bona fide*, we will be not unnaturally occasioned to take certain definite means for the realisation thereof.

THE ALLEGED PEKING PLOT.

Far Northern papers vary very much in their attitude toward the tale of the attempted outrage at Peking. The *China Times* of the 20th inst. says:—"Further particulars of the British Legation sensation were forwarded to us by our Peking correspondent yesterday, and, in any further destruction is possible, entirely destroy the report of the attempt to blow up the building. The Peking Guy Fawkes affair turns out to be nothing more serious than a theft of some ordnance stores, which it is supposed was committed either by persons working in collusion with the Legation Chinese servants, or by the servants themselves. Some gun-fittings and other equipments were stolen. A detonating apparatus was also taken and dropped outside by the thieves, when hastily leaving the premises. Hence the report of gunpowder, treason, and plot. The whole affair is ridiculed by the Legation officials. All the property has been recovered from various shops, though whether the thieves are known is not stated. People will therefore have to wait until the 5th of November for a genuine Gunpowder Plot sensation."

On the other hand, the *Peking & Tientsin Times* of the 19th says:—"In regard to the dastardly attempt on the British Legation and Barracks in Peking which has recently been made, we were in possession of certain facts some time since, which it was thought inadvisable to publish, but which indicated that some sinister movement was on foot. A very keen watch was kept, and it is undoubtedly due to this sharp look-out that a tragedy of an appalling nature was frustrated in Peking a few days ago. That the movement is more than mere Chinese devilry seems certain, and the singling out of the British Legation premises for this dastardly attention signifies a political insight with which it is difficult to credit the present brilliant members of the Government, unless inspired from another source. There is reason to believe that British policy in Peking at the moment is being steered by a craftsman whose astuteness is found extremely inconvenient in some quarters."

The same paper of the 22nd ult. contains the following:—"A correspondent sends us what is the most intelligible statement of the munition robbery at the Legation which has yet been made. Referring to the message of the *Times* correspondent our informant says: The message was sent without verification at the Legation, probably upon the authority of a heretofore reliable informant. Sir Ernest Satow telegraphed to London, Tokyo, and

Shanghai, refuting the statements. What occurred, according to Colonel Bower, Commander of the Legation Guard, was a theft was committed by common Chinese thieves from the Chinese City. Among the munition materials which they attempted to carry off was electrical apparatus used in the construction of mines, and this was relinquished by the thieves at the last moment and left dangling over the wall by which they escaped. A quantity of gun-parts, such as sights, etc., was taken, but all has been recovered, except a small balance not exceeding ten pounds sterling in value. The supposition that these things were the paraphernalia of conspirators is held to be ridiculous by the British at the Legation and at the barracks, because they are identified as the property of the Legation and were missing from the store-room. It is unlikely, from their point of view, that conspirators would rely upon the materials in the magazine for laying their train and fuse and exploding devices."

THE QUESTION OF MANCHURIA.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes the following amusing story, which it states to be authentic. It proves, says our contemporary, the crass ignorance and apathy of many of the highest mandarins in the country, and the pity of it that the destinies of China should be in the hands of such men as the "hero" of the present anecdote. A short time ago, as a number of Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and other officials of the various Boards and Ministries were congregated in the ante-room of the Grand Council Chamber waiting for the coming of their Majesties to give them audience, the conversation naturally turned upon the Russian occupation of Manchuria. Then up stood H. C. Li Chao-wei, Vice-President of the Board of War, and declared, "Your Excellencies, if you would take my advice I should say, 'Let the Russians remain in Manchuria. Our Government will find it both more economical and less bothersome.'" There were many ejaculations of surprise heard in the room at this declaration; some shook heads, shut their eyes, and tried to appear unconcerned, while others tried to look wise as if they knew all about it, but no one seemed inclined to ask questions, thereby betraying his ignorance on such a burning subject. At last a venturesome secretary of the Waiwupu, whose youthful appearance gave him the license to seek information, broke the oppressive silence that had suddenly fallen upon the room and timidly asked, "Will your Excellency deign to enlighten my befogged intellect and guide my understanding by showing how this can be?" Another pause, during which the deep and sagacious Vice-President Li Chao-wei looked contemptuously at his questioner. Then, as if pitying such ignorance, that wise statesman replied, "Why, if we insist upon the Russian forces evacuating Manchuria, how are we to protect their railway there, I should like to know? Where are our troops to do the work? Then when once the Russians are gone we will have the terrible *Hung Hu-tze* (Red-beards) mounted bandits raiding everywhere, plundering the railway stations and works, and destroying the railway wherever they can. What would be the result, allow me to ask your Excellencies; shall we not have the Russian Minister here hammering at the door of the Waiwupu demanding heavy indemnities for the damage done upon Russian railway property, accompanied, perhaps, by other heavy demands for Russian lives lost at the hands of the banditti. Would it not, then, be much more economical and cause us infinitely less trouble if we allow the Russians to remain in Manchuria to protect their own property at their own expense, while we enjoy peace and prosperity within the protecting walls of Peking and quietly bask under the sunny and balmy influence of her Imperial Majesty, 'the Old Ancestress'?" [NOTE:—"The Old Ancestress," or *Lao Tsu-tung*, the term of endearment given to the Empress-Dowager after her return to Peking from Hsian; *Lao Fo-yeh*, or "Old Buddha," was her prior designation.] After spouting out the foregoing long speech, Vice-President Li Chao-wei glared through his huge spectacles upon his audience as if to challenge any

audacity to do so, as his plan fitted so nicely with the *dolce far niente* policy of the company. On the contrary, nothing but words of approval were to be heard, such as "*Kao-ming, Yuan-lü*" ("Highly intelligent, far-seeing indeed!") and the like. Just then the signal of tinkling bells and the clash of cymbals in the distance presaged the approach of the "Old Ancestress" and the Emperor and everyone arose preparatory to filing into the audience chamber.

THE TYPHOON.

During the whole of last Monday night and all day Tuesday the weather was of a most boisterous nature, and at 6 a.m. on Tuesday the Black Drum was hoisted, indicating a typhoon to the east of Hongkong, with its centre less than 300 miles away. At 7.30 a.m. a single gun was fired, giving warning of the approach of a heavy gale. The typhoon was then reported to the south-east, being expected to pass to the south. An hour before noon it was located to the E.S.E., the centre threatening to approach very near, though it was uncertain whether it would pass to the South or to the North.

In the early morning the Harbour was choppy. The boat-people had mostly run for the shelter at Causeway Bay. At Lyceum Pass there were some half-dozen sea-going steamers and sailing vessels awaiting an abatement of the violence of the weather before going out to sea. Along the Praya many junks were moored, and some of them had a rough time. Water-logged small boats and dinghies were pretty numerous along the sea-wall, and the Chinese Praya loafers found a harvest in the flotsam and jetsam that was washed ashore from various craft. Spray was breaking over the wall freely and saturating the street. All the incoming craft reported heavy weather outside. Passengers by the *Heungshan* from Macao stated that they observed the masts of two sunken junks sticking above the water in Capsicum. The "Star" Ferry launch service was reduced, and the matched covers at each landing-stage were removed and the bamboo-work strengthened. The last launch from Hongkong left at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, and, though warning had been given, so large a crowd left matters to the last moment that the boat could not carry all desiring passengers. Would-be European passengers, including a number of ladies, had to be left behind, complaining bitterly; it is rather to be wondered at that they had not foreseen a rush for the ferry. The Peak Tramway service was fortunately unaffected, for it takes a very violent gale to stop the cars.

Steamers arriving in port during the next two days reported very bad weather outside, with high winds and stormy seas, but no casualties to their own steamers. The British steamer *Haiching*, Captain Passmore, from Swatow, reported passing the German steamer *Tailee* off the Cape, the latter steamer having encountered very severe weather in which she lost her funnel and had her boats smashed and carried away. The *Tailee* was proceeding to Swatow in a moderate northerly wind, and did not want assistance. The Norwegian steamer *Tyr*, Captain D. L. Danielsen, from Hongay, reported very stormy weather on the 26th ult., on which date, at 2 p.m., she bore down upon a water-logged *Tees* boat in the Tonkin Gulf, and saved therefrom seven Chinese males, whom she brought on to Hongkong. The *Rubi*, from Manila, also reported rough weather all the way up.

A communication has reached this office, signed "Clairvoyant," in which the writer thereof complains of the manner in which the Sunday excursions to Macao are managed. Without any reason, he alleges, these excursions are advertised as under religious patronage, and yet gambling is not only allowed, but encouraged on board to the annoyance of other passengers. These trips are pleasant and beneficial, he adds, and to make them popular gambling should be strictly prohibited on board, and the fares enhanced to make it prohibitive for the undeirables, and at the same time compensate the promoters for the loss occasioned by the prohibition of gambling on board.

THE VOLUNTEER CAMP.

The Volunteer Camp at Stonecutters' has so far been a great success. Some useful instruction drill has been put in. On the 24th ult. there were a great many visitors. The members of the Corps amused themselves in a variety of ways. Cricket and football were indulged in. In the cricket match the First Right beat the Left Right by five wickets. A. S. Watson's representatives played a particularly good game. Uphill and Austen distinguishing themselves. At football "Binks" shone to some purpose. The score is not known. In the course of the afternoon there was a 100 yards sprint between Mr. J. D. Logan and Mr. Tyrell, the latter conceding five yards to his more elderly opponent. The younger man won, but had to put his best foot forward to do so. It is said by Camp gossip that the bet money has not yet been paid over. Corporal Uphill, who was in charge of the guard yesterday afternoon, turned up without his stripes but managed his duty just as well as if he had had them on.

We are sorry to record a painful accident that occurred on Saturday night. Corporal J. Hays, was on guard duty and he was walking through the tents when he slipped on one of the bed-boards and stumbled, with the result that he cut his wrist on a piece of broken glass, severing two arteries. The wound bled profusely and Dr. Swan's assistance had to be got to stitch the severed arteries. We understand that Mr. Hays is making fair progress towards recovery.

The ubiquitous Corporal Deas is again one of the leading lights of the Camp as he has been in former years.

Sergeant-Major Higby, the new S.M. of the Corps, is looking after things in general, and is already making himself a popular officer by reason of his tactfulness and courtesy.

The bars are in charge of Mr. E. G. Jordan, who has been decorated with the local rank of honorary Sergeant, and under his care this branch of the commissariat department is conducted in a first-class manner.—*Daily Press*, 26th October.

On the 27th ult. the Camp at Stonecutters' Island had things made unpleasant for them by the heavy rains and the strong wind that was blowing. When members of the Corps woke up in the morning and found that, on dressing, their shoulders were in unwelcome proximity to the wet canvas of the tents, there were many strong remarks made; but as the day men were sent away to work in Hongkong and the men remaining in camp settled down to the serious business of the day general equanimity was restored, what with the help of breakfast and routine work. However, the weather throughout the day did not improve much, and there was much anxiety expressed as to whether the typhoon rations would hold out or no. The boisterous nature of the sea kept Hongkongites from taking advantage of the "Guest Night." H.E. the Governor, Sir Henry Blake, was to attend the concert that was to have taken place last night, but did not attend, as the function was postponed on account of the threatening typhoon. The decision was a wise one, in fact was inevitable.

On Monday night the Volunteers had a night practice at manning the forts. They travelled round by launch from the Camp pier to the stone pier at the south end, and then scaled the paved road to the batteries. A successful practice was held. The journey started at about 6 p.m. and at 9 o'clock the Volunteers got back to quarters, very tired, but having thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The practice was attended by one regrettable incident. On the way to the forts in the dark Captain Sayer fell into a concrete ditch and sustained severe bruises, and probably some torn ligaments, on one of his shoulders. He was attended to in Camp, there still being no doctor in the Island, and was afterwards removed to the Government Civil Hospital. Dr. Swan was summoned from Kowloon to attend to his injuries.

On the way back to the Camp pier the Volunteer launch had a narrow escape of running on the rocks. A search-light was shining from behind and its rays made the steersman of the

launch rather lose his bearings. It was within twenty yards of the shore when a fortunate shift in the direction of the search-light showed the proximity of the rocks. The helm was put about just in time to escape a catastrophe.—*Daily Press*, 28th October.

CHARITABLE BAZAAR.

On the 24th ult. a bazaar inaugurated under the auspices of Mrs. F. H. May, Mr. Webb, and Mrs. Birdwood, was held by the members of the Ministering Children's League, on the Volunteer Parade ground (which had been kindly lent for the occasion), in aid of the Victoria Home and Orphanage and School for Blind Children at Kowloon. The bazaar was also designed to show the work done by the children in connection with the league. After the threatening appearance of the morning the afternoon turned out very fine, and consequently by 4 p.m. the grounds presented a very animated scene, and the ubiquitous chink of coin current testified to the amount of business done. Besides the stalls, of which there were ten, there were a toboggan slide which appeared to be doing a roaring trade, as the little ones could not get back to the starting point fast enough, and a ship's life-saving apparatus in which the children were hauled back and forth by some men from H.M.S. *Tamar*. At 4 p.m. *Sleeping Beauty* was staged, the heroine's part being taken by a pretty little girl named Miss Nan Roger, the other parts being very cleverly filled by Misses Eva. Margy, and Joan Roger, Nora Mitchell, G. Woodcock, Phyllis Sethi, Emily Bradley, Mary Blake, Lily Palmer, Florrie Standish, and Esme Woodcock, and Masters Roger and Seth. The stalls were very prettily arranged with stocks of fancy goods, from lamp-stands to lace collars, sweetstuffs, &c., flanked by ice cream and refreshment stalls, on which there was a continuous run. One feature, generally so successful at these bazaars, was missing. We refer to the bevy of little girls who parade about selling buttonholes at famine prices, and generally carry off the palm for the amount of their earnings. Among the stall-holders were, (1) Mrs. Wesley Brown and Miss C. Goodman, (2) Mrs. Robinson and Miss Hawkesley, (3) Mrs. Parker, Miss Denton, and Miss Tyler, (4) Mrs. Fullerton and Mrs. James, (5) Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Seth, Mrs. Chas. Lammert, and Miss Loureiro, (6) Mrs. Ormiston and Miss Goodman, (7) Mrs. Baker-Brown, Mrs. Trenchard Davis, (8) Mrs. Davison, Miss Cocker, and Miss Blair, (9) Mrs. Wyllie, Miss Wyllie, Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. Danby, Mrs. Dickson, and Mrs. Rout, all being assisted by a large number of children. Finally there was a stall for packing parcels, tended by two bright young packers, Miss Mary Bryant and Miss Rosa Bradley. A special word of commendation is due to Mr. Branson, 10th Bo. L.I., for his very successful conjuring exhibitions, which went far to swell the funds of the Ministering Children's League.

During the afternoon the Band of the 10th Bombay Infantry, by kind permission of Colonel Bird and the officers of that regiment, played a very choice selection of music.

Mrs. May and the ladies helping her deserve great credit for the manner in which the function was carried through, and no doubt, owing to their untiring efforts, the charities mentioned will benefit substantially.

The two new Admirals of the German squadron, Rear-Admiral von Prittwitz and Commander von Holtzendorff, left Genoa on the 14th inst. for China on board the German Mail *Prinz Heinrich*.

In connection with the case against Miller in Manila for issuing forged certificates to Chinese to facilitate their landing in the Philippines, as already reported in these columns, news has been received from Shanghai that Miller's partner in the alleged fraud, H. W. Ballantine, has been arrested in Shanghai, and his attempt to prove the arrest illegal, as it was effected by reason of a telegram from Governor Taft with a request to that end, has failed, and Ballantine is being held in arrest pending the arrival of officials with the papers in the case from Manila.

NOTES FROM THE BOTANIC GARDENS.

The Hongkong Flora is particularly rich in flowering shrubs, and *Gordonia anomala*, which is now in flower, is a very attractive species. The flowers are white, 2 or 3 inches across, somewhat like a single-flowered camellia, and are found in the upper axils of the leaves or at the ends of the branches. Two bushes may be seen in the gardens at the east end of the No. 1 house. In the *Index Florae Sinensis* the plant is stated to be apparently endemic, but this is not the case, as we have seen many specimens of it growing in the New Territory. It belongs to the same family as the Camellia and the Tea-plant.

There is only one lady's slipper orchid found in a wild state in Hongkong, and that is *Cypripedium purpuratum*, or as it is now called, *Paphiopedilum purpuratum*, several specimens of which are in flower in the No. 2 house. The flowers are purple, produced singly on scapes 8 inches to 1 foot high, and last a long time in perfection. The leaves are 4 or 5 inches long and variegated, the markings on those of different plants being extremely variable. This orchid is thought to be endemic in Hongkong, but we have reason to believe that such is not the case. We have found it on Mt. Victoria, Mt. Parker, and on the hills above Little Hongkong, but never in large numbers. In the *Flora Hongkongensis* the species is said to be a native of the Khasia Hills, but this is now known to be incorrect.

The typhoon, luckily, passed off without doing much damage in the gardens. The rainfall, which was badly needed for vegetation, amounted to .88 of an inch, and the fall for the month has been 1.71 inches.

The word *funicles* in last week's notes should have been *panicles*.

BOAT DISASTER ON SHAM-CHUN RIVER.

News has come to hand of a serious boat disaster on the Shamchun River, involving the loss of many lives. On Monday last, while the Hongkong launch the *Wing Fook* (owned by a Chinawoman here) was discharging her passengers on to one of the flat-bottomed river boats that convey the passengers up the shallow part of the river to Shamchun city, and when all had been transhipped and the boat had swung clear of the launch, the boat suddenly heeled over and filled.

The formation of these boats makes them a veritable death-trap in the event of such an accident. They are covered in from stern to stern almost, leaving a platform up each side for the coolies, who pole the craft upstream, to walk upon; and the entrances to the interior of this covered-in part are small doors.

In this case there were about 30 passengers on board when the accident happened. Many were thrown into the water and carried away by the swift current that runs here. It is not known yet how many lives have been lost, but up till Wednesday the Santin police had recovered five dead bodies.

NEW TERRITORY NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

23rd October.

ANCESTRAL WORSHIP.

The date of this Chinese religious ceremony occurs in about five more days. At present the hillsides in British and Chinese Territory are dotted with Chinese visiting and repairing the numerous graves, preparing for the event. Those who can afford it have music of a kind, also food and *samshu ad lib*. Discarding their sombre blue clothes, the Chinese look quite gay in their dresses of many-coloured silks.

SAN ON MAGISTRATE.

A rumour is going the round among the Chinese on both sides of the frontier that Chan Leong Kit, the San On magistrate, has been dismissed from office by the Viceroy of Canton. If this is so, it would be interesting to know why, for the San On magistrate has always been popular with our

local Government, and has done good service in ridding the frontier of many bad characters.

SECOND RICE-CROP.

The second rice-crop is now being cut in places. The yield this time promises to be exceptionally good—even better than the first crop. The price of new paddy in Shamchun market is about \$2.10 per picul.

PARTRIDGE AND QUAIL.

These birds are now fairly numerous—the latter especially. They are to be found in dry, grassy places.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 22nd October.

TROUBLES IN THE EAST.

The district to the eastward of Canton is never free from trouble. Not many months ago two villages, only a few miles from the East gate of the city, carried on warfare for several days, even using some small cannon, which boomed away for two or three hours each day without doing much damage. The Pun Yü magistrate, in whose care this troublesome district is, took good care to leave the villages to fight their quarrel out without interference.

It is, however, further east where the most turbulent district is to be found. I have referred several times to the disorders in the Waichow and Kwai Sing districts, which lie adjacent to one another. I have now collected a few details which will show the undesirability of these districts for residential purposes. In Ho Yün—a district in the north of Waichow prefecture, travellers cannot travel singly, but form caravans for safety's sake. Fearful stories are told of the cruelty of the brigands, who, among other things, are said to bind their victims to trees after robbing them, and leave them to starve. In Kwai Sing districts the roads are no safer, but it is not travellers only who have to fear the brigands. Private houses are broken into almost daily, and the inhabitants carried off and held to ransom. Cases have been reported from Ping Shan, Tam Sui, and Pak Ming Fa.

Nor do people who travel by water fare any better. The passenger-boats on the various branches of the East River are regularly held up. Last week on two days the daily boat between Shek Lung and Poklo was robbed by a band of 10 pirates. On the second occasion three passengers were killed, but I am informed by a German missionary that it is very rarely that blood is shed; while foreigners may generally pass in perfect safety and even immunity from attack—as in Kwangsi.

Even the walled cities are not safe in this "distressful" country. Early last week one of the gates of Waichow itself was attacked by a small army of brigands eager for the plunder of the wealthy quarter. They were beaten back with some difficulty; and such is the terror of the citizens that they have sent a petition to the Viceroy praying for immediate help. It may be remembered that some of the troops were withdrawn for the defence of Canton a month ago. These men could well return to Waichow now that Canton is well-garrisoned, and it is probable that they will do so.

IN CANTON.

There is little news in the capital. The Namhoi has been dismissed for incompetency and a favourite of the Viceroy's, one Yen, young and able man, has taken his place. The process of weeding-out is still being carried out. Captain Yang of the Shameen guard has been petitioned against by 72 guilds, and it is probable that his day has come.

Canton, 28th October.

H. E. SHUM ON SICK LEAVE.

The Viceroy has asked the Throne for one month's sick leave. He will remain in his yamen without transacting any business, as he is not in a fit state of health to deal with the weighty questions which are before him. Not least important among these, it is said, will be the enquiry into alleged corruption among the examiners at the M.A. examination. The papers are to be handed in at the viceregal yamen on the 30th, and after that date petitions may be sent in in the usual way.

REMARKABLE IMPERSONATION.

A case in which remarkable astuteness was

shown by a small official has just been brought to light. Some time ago the name Cheung Ting Wai was mentioned in connection with the Cantonese fleet. Admiral Lo Bu had been superseded by Cheung. It now appears that this gentleman had been dead for years, but by a masterpiece in the way of forgery and probably by extensive bribing of underlings, a junior official had succeeded in personating Cheung. While in a low position this impostor had managed to keep up the farce, but he grew ambitious, and by his clever representations to the Viceroy (he exposed Lo Bu's incompetence and suggested the lines on which the fleet in the South could be re-organised) he was raised to the post of admiral. Here, however, his own ignorance of high affairs led to his exposure, and he now stands charged not only of forgery but of lining his own pockets by supplying the Kwangsi rebels with arms.

PROVINCIAL TROUBLES.

From Kwangsi no news of importance creeps through the bulwark of censorship get up by the Viceroy. It may be, as rumoured, that the rebels are coming in in large numbers, or again detachments of Imperialists may be cut into a thousand pieces, but we in Canton know nothing about it for the present.

Waichow, that other hotbed of brigandage, continues to furnish news. General Ng, who was lately appointed, has already had to call out his troops. It was reported to him last week that several hundred rebels had held a meeting in a park at Poklo (on the East river) and were planning some great coup. The general promptly made a forced march with a large body of troops, but when he arrived the birds had flown, and he had to content himself with the destruction of the house and grounds where the plot was hatched.

MORE PIRACY.

The pirate junk mentioned in my last letter, encouraged by its previous successes, again swooped down on a merchantman on the river near Sheklung. A Government boat was on this occasion lurking hard by, and it engaged the corsair, a tremendous fight ensuing—at a safe distance. After two or three pirates had fallen the junk abandoned its prey. The Waichow people are highly delighted at these two successes on the side of law and order.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 28th October.

THE NEW NAMHOI IN TROUBLE.

As regards the dismissal of the Namhoi magistrate Wong Sung there is further news to hand. The cause of his dismissal was that during the term of his office as such magistrate it came to the knowledge of H.E. Viceroy Shum that the turnkeys and watchers of his yamen squeezed the convicts of various sums of money. Thereupon His Excellency ordered the magistrate to investigate and punish them. He was called upon for an explanation, and the answer he gave was equivocal and unsatisfactory, so H.E. Shum, very angry, a few days ago ordered his dismissal. To be Namhoi magistrate one must spend a good lot of money. Wong Sung, it is said, has spent during a few months out of his own pocket something like a hundred thousand taels for yamen expenses and gifts to officials, in the hope of recovering it by collecting the land-taxes at the end of the year. If a magistrate gets dismissed, as in this case, before the end of the year, he is a sure loser. It is said that Wong will be sent as acting magistrate in the district of Kit-yeong, Waichow.

ANOTHER HEAD IN DANGER.

Ever since Li Ka Cheuk, late magistrate of Yam Chow, was arrested and imprisoned in the Pun-yu gaol, strict watch has been kept over him for fear of his escaping. From fourteen to fifteen soldiers are employed in watching him day and night, and he is not allowed to take the meals sent him by his relatives or friends as other criminals are; nor are his own servants allowed to attend upon but the gaol guards. Report says it is very likely that he will lose his head.

UNDER THE BLOTTING PAPER.

About a week or ten days ago H. E. Shum sent a despatch to one of the Consuls in Shameen. No answer being forthcoming, he wrote again, and the Consul stating that he did not receive the despatch, His Excellency flew into a passion, and threatened to cut off the

messenger's head if he did not produce the document within twenty-four hours. The man ran trembling to the Consulate to beg the Consul to save his life. The latter searched everywhere, and at last found the despatch underneath the blotting paper on his desk. Upon his writing to the Viceroy to point out that it was not the fault of the messenger, the matter dropped.

NEW IDEAS FOR KWANGSI.

It is said that a Japanese military officer undertaking to stop the rebellion in Kwangsi with two thousand Japanese soldiers, arranged with a native of Sun Nin, by name Yü, to have an interview with the Viceroy to talk over the matter. A petition was presented by Yü but was refused.

There is another suggestion with reference to the rebellion. The committee of the different charitable institutions in Canton have offered themselves to the high local authorities as emissaries to repair to Kwangsi and propose terms of peace to the rebels. As they are charitable men, it is thought the rebels might have more confidence in them.

AO SUN.

The brigand chief Ao Sun, of Sai Chin, had a fight with his comrades about the division of booty, whereon one of the latter fired and wounded him in the arm. The blackmail Ao has levied upon the proprietors of land and fields in the district of Hengghan alone amounts to one hundred and ninety thousand dollars a year.

FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 23rd October.

PROPERTY SALES.

It is now known that the good sale of European property referred to in my last letter—that of one of the largest houses in Nantai—was to Mr. Lo Tsung Hien, eldest son of the late Chih Chen Lo Feng-Lu, who is expected to take possession on the 1st prox.

SPORT.

Our Hongkong visitors have been no more successful in their attempts to bag a tiger in the Kucheng district than were those from Shanghai on a previous occasion. But they appear to have taken more trouble, and have at any rate discovered that the man-eater (or man eaters) is a leopard and not a tiger. The villagers gave but little support. When a corpse was found they insisted on placing it in a coffin at once. The man-eater returns to "drag" his prey, and finding his game up clears off in the thick undergrowth. The corpse of a Chinese woodcutter was found with the marks of the brute's teeth in his throat and a paw-mark on his shoulder, otherwise untouched, but lying close to that of a young boy, one of whose thighs had been quite devoured. The man had evidently disturbed the leopard at his meal.

It is pleasant to turn from this gruesome report of big game sportsmen to the splendid victory of our local gun club over Amoy with 102 points against Amoy's 81 (out of 120).

The Ladies' Tournament was rather easily won by Miss E. Drew, daughter of the Commissioner of Customs here.

FOOCHOW ARSENAL.

Our local paper in its weekly issue on Saturday last, quoted in full a leading article from the N. C. Daily News of 7th October re the Foochow Arsenal. There is no doubt that the present director, Mr. C. Doyère, is leaving the Arsenal shortly, and it is reported that Mr. A. Bertrand is to take his place, but with by no means such full powers as were granted to his predecessor. It appears that Taotai Wei Han, who is responsible to the Government, is evidently taking firm measures to preserve the Arsenal for Government purposes.

THE TEA-MARKET.

The market for Oolong teas, which has been stagnant for so long, was set going quite briskly last week, the Chinese tea-men probably giving up all hopes either of an appreciable fall in exchange or of finding the American market inclined to weakness. It has been estimated by some that the loss to the Chinese has been about 6 lacs out of a settlement of 82

lacs, a dead loss of at least a third of their present sales.

WARSHIPS.

H.M.S. *Bramble* put in here yesterday to coal, having experienced very nasty weather outside. The British community are all hoping to see one of H.M. ships here at least this winter. During the last years they have been conspicuous by their absence.

PORT ARTHUR.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Port Arthur, 12th October.
A WAR SCARE.

On the 25th ult. (i.e., 8th October) Port Arthur was much excited by the receipt of information sent from St. Petersburg by a telegraphic agency, to the effect that Japanese troops had been landed at Fusan. The Russians all seemed to regard such a step as equivalent to a declaration of war, and at 2 p.m. on the same day the fleet suddenly left the harbour for an unknown destination. Some of the vessels were painted black—the war colour—before they left; the most complete preparation had been made for action; the last touches were put to the defences of the harbour, all the torpedo-boats taking up their places and changing their colour. The report of the News Agency was soon contradicted, however. The higher authorities here having ascertained that no Japanese had landed in Corea; the report having probably arisen from the movements of the Japanese fleet at Masampo. Nevertheless a good deal of uneasiness prevailed, for it was admitted that Japan was preparing to do something.

THE JAPANESE IN COREA.

The following is a translation of an article, that appeared on the 26th Sept. (o.s.) in the local newspaper:—

"Although it penetrated in all directions among the public, and even found its way into the telegrams of the Russian telegraphic agency, the information concerning the movements of the Japanese troops in Corea must be placed in the category of rumours of which the origin is unknown.

"On account of the wide circulation it got, this rumour undoubtedly attained its object of producing alarm in the public mind; but we must distinctly state that it was a rumour, and nothing else. While on this subject we might first of all direct attention to the fact that these sensational telegrams did not originate from Russian sources. One of them came from London, having first reached London from Kobe and the other came from Paris. The first came in all probability from Japanese sources, the second from American sources. In No. 109 of our journal we inserted a telegram dated Tokyo, September 18, and probably coming from Russian sources, in which the extensive warlike preparations of the Japanese is denied.

"For our own part we must say that, informed by the highest authority regarding the state of things in Corea, we do not deny the fact that some warlike preparations are going on in Japan, and that the Fleet is engaged in manoeuvres, but we do deny that the object of these preparations is Corea. As to the future events that may occur in the Far East we shall put our readers in possession of information about them as speedily as possible, but we do not think that such events can be foreseen."

GRAND REVIEW.

On Saturday the manoeuvres of the soldiers belonging to the Port Arthur garrison were brought to a conclusion, and the occasion was marked by the sound of cannon and of musketry fire at intervals throughout the day. The musketry fire was so close to the town that I am sure an assault was made by the invaders on some of the principal defences, perhaps on Gold Hill itself, which was taken so easily by the Japanese troops during the war with China, but which could scarcely be taken so easily now. On Sunday there was a Grand Review, in the course of which all the soldiers of the garrison, with the exception of the fortress artillery, passed before the Viceroy. I am told by a Russian Colonel that 40,000 men were present on the occasion. The soldiers were all clean and smart-looking, presenting a great contrast to their usual appearance, and having every token of being a very serious factor indeed.

MR. DAVIDSON.

Mr. Davidson, the United States Consul in Formosa, is now here on his way to St. Petersburg and is "doing" this town and Dalny with American thoroughness. He is engaged, I believe, on a book describing the Siberian Railway. There are other foreign residents of Japan here, and of course a great many foreigners are constantly passing through from China.

THE NEW HOTEL.

The new hotel is nearing completion and will, when finished, be a fine building accommodating several hundred guests. It is situated in New Town, commands a fine view and adjoins the Public Gardens; and despite some faults, such as the smallness of the dining room in proportion to the size of the building, it should undoubtedly be a success. Almost every day I see gentlemen and ladies wandering about with their luggage in the streets looking in vain for a lodging; and, if the present rush continues, the hotel can easily get six roubles a day upwards for room alone.

CORRESPONDENCE

ILLICIT TRADE "TAXES" ON FOOD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

39, Sussex Square, Brighton.

SIR.—As far back as 1303, in the days of Edward I., the market middlemen (formerly known as fore-tallers), who now in 1903 still control our food supplies, were then punished by banishment, forfeiture of goods, the pillory, fines, and imprisonment.

Before a safe and sound state of affairs can be brought about in the British Empire, these laws and penalties must be revived, or suitable restrictions reinforced.

In 1674, a special act of Common Council states that "The (London) markets being intended for the benefit and advantage of housekeepers and others, who buy for their own use, to be spent in their own families, to provide for themselves in the morning at the best hand, and pay moderate rates for their provisions."

This Act also enforced *boni-fide* public auctions and proper weighing facilities within the market.

In 1801, the Common Council of the City of London issued its famous report "as to the extravagant high price of every necessary article of human sustenance and food, which had become truly alarming," concluding with "In order to stop the nefarious practices of regrating and intercepting the supplies of provisions for the metropolis, we (the Common Council) are unanimously of opinion that such practices should be prohibited, the offenders heavily punished, and the contracts declared void."

The majority of the nation is now greatly alarmed at proposed microscopic taxes on food. Yet the country calmly submits to avoidable but augmenting Trade Rings, whose commercial combinations have cornered our entire fresh food supplies during both peace and war.

Tied bakers' shops run by millers, public-houses owned by brewers, an artificially limited supply of perishable meat, game, poultry, eggs, butter, margarine, fish, vegetables, fruit, etc., are all safely in the octopus grasp of the ubiquitous middlemen, who have illegally monopolised our fresh food markets, the joint property of the primary food-producer and the consumer.

Free Trade should mean free dealing between producer and consumer, which, owing to the machinations of the middlemen, has been made practically impossible in the British Empire. Wherefore, despite of free imports the price of fresh food in England still compares most unfavourably with that of some other countries—notably Germany—where the trade rings are less powerful and less greedy, and where, although almost all home-grown foods and food imports are taxed, yet the actual cost of food to the consumer is far less than in our own country.

Our fresh food supplies, if made "imperishable" (as I have so long persistently publicly advocated), by proper means of killing or collecting, preparing, dry cold-air-storage, and distributing, would tend to defeat the middlemen's monopoly.

Various kinds of fresh foods demand different but definite (artificial) dry cold-air temperatures for "imperishable" preservation.

The majority of these animal and vegetable fresh foods, especially fish, are cheaper to produce, store and distribute, besides being much more wholesome, nutritious, and palatable in the "imperishable" condition, than in their present perishable forms, too often stale and sometimes even poisonous.

Of course, in the event of war, then only imperishable fresh food supplies for the people, army, military and mercantile marine, can save the United Kingdom from starvation.

Note. Examples:—

(I). New Zealand mutton is frequently delivered at the chief ports of the United Kingdom at less than 3d. per lb. for which in the same town the consumer is charged from 7d. to 1/ the lb. by the local butcher.

(II). Sprats are often sold in Billingsgate at the rate of about 19lbs. for one penny, for which the local London fishmonger or costermonger charges from 2d. to 3d. or more per lb. That is to say, the consumer in London buys one pound of sprats for threepence, with which sum 57lbs. of sprats are purchased by the Billingsgate Ring.

As far back as 1303, a wise and just statute of Edward I. declared that "the forestaller"—(now called middlemen's rings) "is an open oppressor of the poor, and an enemy of the whole country."

A Parliamentary Return as to the prices paid to the primary fresh food producers, and those charged to the consumers, would prove that the fresh food rings of market middlemen (who do not distribute the food) are a grave and growing danger and disaster to the trade, the progress and the prosperity of the Empire.—I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

J. LAWRENCE-HAMILTON, M.R.C.S.

A PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"
Hongkong, 22nd October.

SIR.—May I be allowed to make a suggestion through the medium of your valued paper? Considering that there are so many intelligent energetic young men in this colony, I cannot help thinking that it is really apity that so much talent and energy should not be directed to so useful a channel as public-speaking. A debating Society, based on the lines of the House of Commons, i.e., a miniature House of Commons, would I am sure be a great boon to the young men of Hongkong. It will teach them how the British Constitution is governed, promote the cultivation of oratory, promote public spirit, good fellowship, and last but not least, new ideas and new thoughts which in their turn will find expression in speech. It would thus not be a great benefit to the young men only but to the world at large, where the ideas inculcated would be employed, and employed effectively, in the cause of justice and humanity. How many of us have not at times keenly felt the want of expressing our ideas in words? Our finest and noblest thoughts thus fly away no sooner than they come to our minds. I have no doubt whatever that if a few influential and public-spirited men will take up this suggestion and give it proper form, it will prove a very creditable institution. In England and elsewhere many societies of this kind exist, and Mr. Chamberlain himself belongs to one of these, as do also many members of the House of Commons and other notables.—Yours, etc.,

PARLIAMENT.

THE PROPOSED ICE & STORAGE CO., LD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong 24th October, 1903.

SIR.—I have read Mr. Chan A Tak's letter with much interest, and in the first place I disagree with him when he says that "there is no necessity of making enquiry through the Press." When a prospectus of this sort is issued stating that the profits are certain to be very large, but stating at the same time apparently that \$200,000 out of a capital of \$700,000 is to be paid for promotion fee, so

many people in Hongkong, who are always on the look out for a good thing, want some explanation, that the simplest way to get it is through the Press.

I note that of the nine directors no one had time to give entire attention to the promotion of the enterprise, and after reading Mr. Chan A Tak's letter I gather that even now the directors have not had time to get any very definite information as to what commissions or services rendered and what expenditures are likely to be settled for in shares.

Shares as a rule are not accepted for machinery and materials, and I doubt if the vendors of land (to wit the land at Causeway Bay already said to have been bought by the Company for \$40,000) will sell for shares. I am much surprised, too, to hear that subscribers of 50 shares get 5 promotion shares, or in other words, by paying \$500 a subscriber gets 55 shares (\$10—face value) for a little over \$9 per share. Is not this issuing shares at a discount and illegal?

If shares are issued at \$1—and the President, as the secretary writes, will buy them back at par, which I presume means \$10—the shares are well worth buying for a quick turnover, and any investor will readily see the advantage of the enterprise.

I note that the new Company appear to be calculating their profits on the present selling price of ice in this Colony, and I am very sorry to hear that this high price is likely to be maintained. I fully expected, when I heard that this new Company was formed, that competition would result and that the old established Hongkong Ice Company, with its capital of \$125,000, would at once lower prices by at least 50 per cent. A slight reduction even in one's ice account is something to look forward to in these hard times when a rise in exchange of 20 per cent. is followed by a reduction in the price of stores of only 5 per cent.—Yours, etc.,

X.

THE HONGKONG POLICE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 25th October.

SIR,—With reference to several paragraphs that have appeared in Hongkong papers relating to the scarcity of Police in Hongkong, it is not to be wondered at that we cannot get Europeans out from home when one takes a look round the quarters provided for them at the Central Station, which ought to be the best, but which are quite the opposite. The quarters are by far the worst Government European quarters in Hongkong or elsewhere; in fact, it would be hard to find worse quarters anywhere. The police at home are treated far superior to their brethren in Hongkong. A man joining the police at home can get married should he wish to do so, but in Hongkong he is not allowed to until he has attained the rank of sergeant. This force would be far superior if men were allowed comfortable married quarters. As for those who do not wish to marry, give them comfortable quarters with some privacy attached to them, which they do not possess just now. Why not make it a Police Force alone, not try to combine Police duties with soldiering, which is at present carried on? Men joining at home generally sign an agreement for six hours a day, but they get out here and then get put on Water Police and they do more often eight hours' duty than six. I have also noticed just lately that certain men have been forced to perform twelve hours' duty out of 24, which is far from just. It is not a rare occurrence just lately for only two Europeans to be on duty to patrol the whole of the Central district from midnight to 6 a.m. Another thing I would like to mention about the crime in Hongkong. Why does not the Government stop the Canton and other boats from discharging passengers into the City at all hours of the night? A constable sees a suspicious person carrying a parcel at 2 a.m. and he stops him to enquire where he has come from. The answer he always gets is, "Canton steamer, just come from Canton." Who can deny that he has not, when they are allowed to come and go at any hour of the night?—Yours, etc.,

FAIR PLAY.

BAD GAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 26th October.

SIR,—In the interests of the general public I wish through the medium of your paper to bring to the notice of the management of the Hongkong and China Gas Company, Limited, the present bad supply of gas to consumers. On dit, every household in this Colony is complaining bitterly of this fact, which is more than fully supported by the poor light exhibited for some time past in almost all the streets and public thoroughfares. Whatever may be the cause of this bad light, it is high time for the management (who is catering for the public) to adopt at once the desired improvement as consumers, who since August, 1902, have been paying, without grudging, the increased price of \$3.50 instead of \$3.00 per every 1,000 cubic feet, have a right to expect that their houses be well and properly illuminated.

Taking this matter from a commercial point of view, I find that the Company is in the first instance the great sufferer, as the quantity of the consumption of gas by consumers in its present state must be much more reduced. I see from my bills for the past two months that, although I was getting bad light, still I was paying less for it to the Company.—Yours, etc.,

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 26th October.

SIR,—A few months ago a good deal was written about the poor gas supply in the Colony, but those responsible for its production appear to have taken little heed of the complaints made, as things, instead of improving, have gone from bad to worse. In many houses the light is so bad as to necessitate a return to kerosene lamps and candles, and no doubt dealers in these articles fully appreciate the assistance afforded them by the Gas Company. It is a great pity our local Electric Light Company is not more alive to the situation.

The continually deteriorating quality of the illuminant (?)—due no doubt to the ever-decreasing pressure, would naturally lead one to suppose that at all events the consumption was decreasing in proportion, but strange to relate, such is not the case, as subscribers find to their cost at the end of the month.

Speaking of bills, it may perhaps be well to remind the local managers of the Gas Company that last year the price per 1,000 cubic feet was raised from \$3.00 to \$3.50 on account of the fall in exchange. In the meantime exchange has risen considerably, but nothing has been heard of any corresponding reduction in price, which customers might reasonably expect as some sort of compensation for the wretched quality of the gas supplied. Even were a considerable reduction made, the price here would still be higher than in Shanghai, where consumers are only charged \$1.50 per 1,000 cubic feet against our \$3.50, in spite of which enormous difference the Shanghai Company managed to pay last year a dividend of 16 per cent.

In everything connected with gas the Hongkong public seems to be imposed upon. It would appear from the Expresses circulated that the sale of the "genuine" Welsbach Incandescent Burners and Mantles is limited in each port to one firm only, but whereas they are sold in Hongkong at \$4 and \$5.50 respectively, the Shanghai people are in a position to buy articles similarly described as "genuine" from the Gas Company at \$1. and \$1.25. It is not to be supposed that the Shanghai Gas Co. lose money on the sale of these fittings, judging from their handsome dividends.

I shall feel happy if these lines in any way stimulate a healthy competition with Hongkong Gas and Fittings, and, apologising for trespassing on the space of your valuable paper, remain Yours, etc.

LOVER OF LIGHT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 28th October.

SIR,—I was pleased to see, in your to-day's issue, "Lover of Light's" letter with regard to the quality of the gas supplied by the Gas Company. Having, whilst residing in outposts, been obliged for some years past to use kerosene

oil, with its attendant drawbacks, as an illuminant, I looked forward to well lighted rooms whilst residing in the Colony. But, alas! I was sadly disappointed. In spite of incandescent burners, mantles, etc., I found that in order to obtain enough light in my small dining-room to see what I was eating (with three burners in the room) I had to turn out all the other burners in the house. Having been in the Colony but a short time, and therefore not having seen the previous letters referred to by "Lover of Light," I was wondering for how long consumers had tolerated such a state of affairs and for how long they were going to pay a very high price for "gas" and get nothing but "air with a trace of gas in it." Your correspondent refers to the price of gas in Shanghai, and I am sure that consumers there would not tolerate for a moment gas of the quality we are supplied with, even though they are charged less than half what we are. "A little healthy competition with Hongkong gas and fittings" is very badly needed indeed, and, as the Gas Company appear to have utterly disregarded all hints given them previously as to the quality of the article supplied by them, it would be well if a few more consumers insisted on getting what they pay for by returning, until matters are remedied by the Company, to the use of the cheaper and (certainly at present) better illuminant, kerosene oil.—Yours etc.

"MORE LIGHT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 29th October.

SIR,—A paragraph in your this morning's issue states that the Gas Company is at present laying new mains in Connaught Road and feeders to the main in Queen's Road, and that there will therefore be no further cause for complaint on the score of a deficient supply. Th a piece of news, whilst perhaps comforting those residents in the City of Victoria who are of sanguine nature, raises no forlorn hope in the breast of—Yours etc.,

A KOWLOONITE.

THE VOLUNTEER CAMP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 28th October.

SIR,—As a number of inaccuracies regarding what has happened at Camp this year have crept into both the *Daily Press* and the *China Mail*, I take this opportunity to correct them.

In view of the statement which appeared in your evening contemporary, for my own credit and that of Bombardier B. W. Grey (and it may be mentioned that I have passed the S. John Ambulance Association's examination four times and Bombardier Grey three, and that we both hold the Association's medal), and also that of Surgeon Capt. Stedman, who taught us all we know, I take the accident to Corporal J. Hays first.

The facts of the case are, briefly, simply these: On Saturday night I was sergeant of the main guard, and Corpl. Hays was in charge of the rear guard. On Sunday at 4 a.m., he had relieved his sentry and posted a new man, and was just about to turn in again, when he tripped over the end of his bed and fell heavily on the neck of a broken bottle and severed an artery in his right wrist. Almost immediately Gunner H. K. Holmes brought me the news, and I at once ran to the scene of the accident. It was apparent at a glance that an artery had been cut, and I stopped the flow of blood by compressing the brachial artery with my fingers. Realising after some time that it would not be possible for me to hang on to the arm for very long, and as the rest of the guard, though rendering valuable assistance, were not ambulance men, I sent for Bombardier Grey. On his arrival we worked together for a considerable time, but as the improvised tourniquet we put on was not altogether satisfactory, Grey suggested that Sergt. Nobbs should be sent for, in the hope that amongst the stock of medical comforts he was known to have brought over he would happen to have a tourniquet. That hope was realised, and on Sergt. Nobbs's arrival (about half an hour after the accident first happened) an Eschmann's tourniquet was placed in position, being removed now and again to allow a supply of fresh blood to reach

the hand. This tourniquet, under the supervision of Nobbs and Grey, remained in use until Dr. Swan's arrival at 7.30 a.m., in company with Holmer, who left camp at 4.40 a.m. in a sampan to fetch him.

The second matter to which I wish to refer is the irresponsible chatter which has lately appeared as regards drinking and the amount of "shandy" consumed in camp. Anyone would fancy that the encampment was turned into a giant species of tavern where men do nothing but sit round and swill beer. This aspersion on a body of men who are giving up much time and doing their best to learn the work they would be expected to perform in an emergency, is rightly and strongly resented. It is bad enough in conversation to pass such remarks, lest they be repeated, but before putting pen to paper one should first remember that a newspaper travels, and the consequent effect to the corps in the public estimation. I have never seen a more moderate camp (and I have been to a good many) than the present. A great deal of good work has been done, and we are ready to do more, if only the weather will leave us alone.—Yours etc.,

H. C. WILCOX.
Sergt., No. 2 Co., H.K.V.A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

29th October.

SIR.—With reference to Mr. H. C. Wilcox's letter in this morning's issue of the *Daily Press*, the writer shows a stupendous want of the sense of humour. As a Volunteer—and one who sacrifices as much time as Sergeant Wilcox in camp duty—I would point out to him that Saturday was an off-day at Stonecutters, and if he had ever attended a Volunteer Camp at home he would have known that the Saturdays are invariably given up to fun and frivolity, with no harm to Volunteers even like Sergeant Wilcox. If Sergeant Wilcox objects to the newspaper comments on the Camp reflecting the spirit that prevailed, then he is no Volunteer in the proper sense of the term. If he is incapable of enjoying himself once in a while, it may be a comfort to Sergeant Wilcox to know that there are others who can do so. As for the shandy that appears to have got on his nerves, perhaps he is not able to appreciate a pint after coming off duty, but he is one of the few who cannot. No body recognises more than I that the Camp is useful and good for instructional purposes, but the less we have the better of men who would eliminate all fun, and who are thin-skinned enough to be shocked at the smoke-curi of a cigarette, or the aroma of a canteen shandy.—Yours, etc.,

VOLUNTEER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Stonecutter's, 30th October.

SIR.—I quite sympathise with Sergt. Wilcox in most matters concerning which he wrote to you on Wednesday, the 28th inst., and I think that "Volunteer," who also wrote on the 29th inst., must be "a little bit off the top" (possibly too much shandy) if he considers that Sergt. Wilcox's letter inferred that the occasional remarks which have appeared in the Press were more or less true. I understand by the letter quite the reverse, and what I would like to know is, Where could you find a more abstemious body of men than the H.K.V.C. east of Suez? Echo answers, Where? I can blow the froth off a driver's half-pint of the much-maligned shandy after doing two hours' drill in the forts, so that the man who came later wouldn't get much; and the man who cannot deserves to wear six yards of blue ribbon *maskee* the S. John's Ambulance medal? By the way, might not Sergt. Wilcox obtain the D.C.M. if his conduct were reported to Headquarters; and should there be a Society which presents medals for extreme modesty, I would bet ten to one on Sergt. Wilcox securing one. To conclude, to do ten days in Camp and follow out the routine (the new Sergt. Major looks after that) is not all beer and skittles, and if any of you hypercritical, sneering civilian Johnnies doubt my word, just join the Corps as an experiment, and (D.V.) I might have the pleasure of drilling you round the tail of a

15-pounder B.L. next Camp at 6 a.m., and keep you standing with your teeth chattering while your thick heads grasp the details.

ALSO SERGT. 2 Co. H.K.V.A.
(but of the Left Half)

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 27th October.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

AN OLD SUIT.

The case No. 48 of 1897 was called, in which Mui Tsan, alias Xui Nai Lam, alias Mui Po Woo, versus Chan Yam and Chan Wo, alias Chan Chiu Pui, trading as the Wa Hing Lung, had sought an injunction to restrain the defendants from representing to the British Consul or the Chinese authorities at Canton that the plaintiff was the same person as the defendant in the original suit No. 73 of 1896 (in which judgment had been given for a claim of \$7,000 odd), and from further endeavouring to enforce the judgment obtained by the defendants in that suit by attachment of the property belonging to the plaintiff, or in which he was interested or otherwise, against the plaintiff. Plaintiff also claimed \$15,000 damages sustained by him by reason of such false representations as mentioned above having been made by the defendant. The writ in this case was taken out on the 10th August 1897, and on the 24th August of that year an interim injunction was issued.

Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. Paget Hett, solicitor, of Mr. G. Hall Brutton's office), appeared for the defendants. The counsel for the plaintiff was not present, but Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, the instructing solicitors, was in Court.

Mr. Slade stated that the matter had been settled. The defendants had been paid a sufficient sum to satisfy their claim in the previous action, the original one, and he asked that the case be dismissed without costs.

His Lordship asked whether it appeared that the property attached in China did belong to the defendant in the original case?

Mr. Slade replied that he had at any rate paid up the debt. The original claim was for \$7,000, and a sufficient sum had been paid to satisfy that.

His Lordship said if this man was the same as the defendant in the first action he ought to be prosecuted for perjury.

Mr. Slade—That is what we were prepared to prove.

His Lordship went on to remark that what he understood was that there had been an action brought against the present plaintiff, the defendant in the first case, and judgment was recovered for \$7,000 odd. Plaintiffs were unable to obtain property from him in Hongkong, and they attached some property which they alleged belonged to him in Canton. The plaintiff in this action said that the property did not belong to the defendant in the previous action—in fact, that he (the owner of the property) was not the party against whom the original action was brought. Then he brought an action seeking to restrain by injunction the successful plaintiffs from representing to the British Consul or the Chinese authorities at Canton that he was the person against whom the previous action was brought or that the property belonged to that person. Now, after five or six years of litigation, he came to a settlement in the case, which made it appear to his Lordship very much as if he was the man against whom the original judgment was given. However, this action having been settled, what about the interim injunction of the 24th August, 1897?

Mr. Slade said that by the action being dismissed that was *ipso facto* dissolved.

His Lordship pointed out that the injunction had been granted "until judgment in this action or until further order of this Court." Perhaps he had better make an order discharging the interim injunction?

Mr. Slade acquiesced, and

His Lordship entered judgment accordingly without costs and discharging the interim injunction of the 24th August, 1897.

Mr. Slade said he thought that if they notified the Consul at Canton that their (the plaintiffs') claim in the first case had been satisfied that would be sufficient.

His Lordship—And the attachment on the property in China will be removed?

Mr. Slade—Yes.

His Lordship added that this was the last of those actions which had been pending for several years, and which he had forced on to a hearing, and it was a fair specimen of what he called abuse on the part of the plaintiff of the process of the Court. He saw from the records that there had been two or three summonses taken out to dismiss the action for want of prosecution, and the plaintiff had always managed to get out of them by taking some fresh move. The worst specimen of the lot was the last dodge—he could call it nothing else—to prevent this cause from coming on before him on the part of the plaintiff. An affidavit was filed on the 10th September by one Mui Chiu stating that to the best of his belief Chan Wo, one of the defendants, died in the San On district of Kwangtung, about three years ago. Next day the alleged dead man filed an affidavit saying he was not dead, and that he and his co-defendant were ready and anxious to proceed with the trial on the date fixed, the 14th of that month.

Mr. Slade explained that as a matter of fact the manager of the plaintiffs' firm, who had taken an active part in the whole of the litigation, and was one of the witnesses, bore the name Chan Hung Wo, and died about the time stated; but he was a distinct man from Chan Wo who was one of the defendants.

His Lordship remarked that this only showed the necessity of the Judge being firm in these cases. This action was begun in 1897, and if it had not been that it was forced on by him it would never have come on at all. Mea time the plaintiffs had had to give security for \$4,000 in all for costs, and there had been an immense waste of money. If the plaintiff had no better case than what had appeared that day he had no right to carry on six years' litigation. He was thankful to say that there were now no arrears on the roll of that Court. Nothing had been set down for trial earlier than last April.

Mr. Slade—That is very satisfactory, my Lord.

The Court adjourned.

Wednesday, 28th October.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

CHAN CHING HOP, TSANG HOI AND WONG
KONG V. CHAN FUK.

Mr. P. W. Goldring, of Messrs. Deacon & Hastings, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors, for the defendant.

Plaintiffs' claim was for \$700 damages suffered by them through the breach by the defendant of the contract for the erection of a sea-wall, dated 10th September, 1902, comprising \$280 for pulling down and re-erecting wall built by defendant and six months' rent of ground at \$70 per month from the 10th November 1902, to the 10th May, 1903, at \$420.

In the first case the present defendant was plaintiff, and judgment was given for \$122.73 on the 3rd June.

His Lordship, after hearing parties, made an adjournment until Friday next.

As a result of the enquiry into the case against Mr. Barton Sinclair for criminal negligence by reason of which funds entrusted to his care, and for which he was responsible, as Treasurer of Rizal Province P. I., had been found short, we learn from Manila papers that Mr. Sinclair, whose case has been mentioned in these columns, and who attempted to commit suicide in the office of the Attorney-General, has been honourably acquitted. Commenting upon this case the *Manila Cablenews* says:—Mr. Sinclair's honesty has not been at stake at any part of his long prosecution. He will return to the States with the untarnished reputation that he brought with him to these Islands.

CASE AGAINST A COMPOSITOR.

In the Summary Court on the 30th ult. Ming King, a compositor, sued Messrs. Kelly and Walsh for \$15, being his wages for September. Mr. C. T. Letton, manager of defendant firm's printing establishment, was in Court.

Mr. Justice Wise, who presided, pointed out to Mr. Letton that the money had been paid into Court, which was practically an admission of the claim.

Mr. Letton explained that the paying of the money into Court was done under a misapprehension. He wished to contest the case.

Plaintiff stated that he was employed by the month. He left on the 2nd October because he was ill.

Mr. Letton deposed that plaintiff left, without giving any notice, on the 30th September. He did not appear on the 1st October. On the 7th he came to the office after business hours and asked for his wages. Witness refused to pay them unless he would give a month's notice, and told him to come back and work for a month and he would get his wages.

His Lordship said that plaintiff was entitled on this action to succeed. Defendants should have brought a cross-action and then the one might have been set against the other.

Mr. Letton—But if he wins this case he will go away to Canton.

His Lordship—Well, I cannot help that.

Mr. Letton added that under the new Ordinance they could take the plaintiff before the Magistrate, but generally as soon as the writ was served in such cases the men ran off to Canton. Employers had no remedy at all.

His Lordship—Yes, that is an inconvenient effect of the situation of the Colony.

Judgment was given for the plaintiff.

On the plaintiff Ming King leaving the Court he was arrested by Sergeant Murison under a warrant taken out by Mr. Letton and was escorted to the Magistracy and put on his trial before Mr. T. Seacombe Smith on a charge of leaving his employment without giving notice.

He pleaded that he left his employment on the 2nd October because he was sick; his eyes were sore.

Mr. Letton stated in evidence that the defendant was engaged by the month from the 1st of the month to the last. On the 30th September defendant asked for leave for seven days, saying he was sick. He then asked for his wages for September. The firm did not usually pay their men until the 7th of the month. Defendant told him that if he was not paid then he would leave, as he wanted to go to Canton; he had no money, and that was why he wanted his wages. Defendant went away and came back on the 7th. Witness refused to pay him his wages and made it quite clear to him that he must come back to his work next morning and give a month's notice. He did not come. He said nothing about his eyes being sore when he asked for leave. Next time defendant came to the office was on the 7th after business hours, when he came to ask for his wages. Witness told him that if he came back to his work he would pay him on the 14th. He did not return to work. When he asked for leave defendant said he was sick, but did not say what was the matter with him.

Defendant stated that he left the office on the 1st October. He had been to Canton; he went there on the 3rd and returned on the 8th. Between the 8th and the 14th he did nothing. On the latter date he went to the office for his wages, but did not get them. That morning he had recovered his wages in the Supreme Court. On the 15th he told Mr. Letton that his eyes were better, and that he could work, but he was told to go away. Under cross-examination by his Worship defendant admitted that he had been to the office of the new English paper that was going to be started and had got work there at \$16 a month if his workmanship proved satisfactory.

His Worship said he saw perfectly well what the position of matters was. Defendant had run away from his employment to get this other work. He had heard about this new newspaper starting and got an offer to go there, probably getting better wages than at Messrs.

Kelly & Walsh's; therefore he threw up his billet at once. That was the view his Worship took of it. He must try to put a stop to this sort of thing—a man throwing up his job at a moment's notice. If he did so he would have to suffer for it. Sentence—\$350 fine, with the option of three months' imprisonment.

CURIOUS CASE AT BANGKOK.

The case against A. F. G. Tilleke, proprietor of the *Siam Observer*, and brother of the Attorney-General to the Siamese Government, and Mong Ong, a Burmese clerk to the above-named accused, has at last concluded in the British Consular Court at Bangkok. The case, as already reported in these columns, was one of receiving stolen property, and the question turned upon whether the receiving was done with a guilty knowledge. In the evidence-in-chief Mr. Tilleke admitted that there were circumstances which led him to believe that the goods were stolen property, but he had no actual knowledge. The facts of the case appear to be as follows. The first accused is a dealer in stones, and the second accused is his clerk, the latter also keeping a boarding-house for traders in precious stones, for whom he acts as a broker. One day in June a man named Mong Hla, a dealer, came to board with him, and after some days said he had a large parcel of diamonds, emeralds, rubies, and *szecs* (inferior rubies or garnets), and asked Mong Ong to help him to dispose of them. The latter promised to do so, and went and consulted his master, the first accused. Thus negotiations were opened. On seeing some of the jewelry the first accused, as he alleged, called upon Mr. Grahlert, the original owner of the stolen goods, and informed him that he believed he knew the men who had his jewels, and it was arranged that Mr. Grahlert should come and see them the following day when the men were to bring them to the house of the first defendant. At that interview the first defendant declared the stones to be imitation, and after much circumlocution and cross-questioning, admitted he, with two accomplices, had stolen the things, and they had divided them into three parts. Finding he had been cheated, Mong Hla divulged the names of his accomplices. It was then arranged that Mong Hla should induce his accomplices to bring their shares of the jewels to the house of the first defendant, and if they refused they would have them arrested, and Mong Hla should turn King's evidence. Mong Hla handed over some of the jewels to the first defendant and left, saying he would see his accomplices. Next day the second defendant learnt that Mong Mong and Mong Po Te were going away by steamer, and on informing the first defendant of the fact the latter caused their arrest, while at the same time the police arrested Mong Hla and searched the second defendant's house, where the arrest of Mong Hla was effected, but nothing incriminating was found. From further evidence it developed that while Tilleke was negotiating with Mr. Grahlert for the return of a portion of the stolen jewels to the latter, in consideration of a heavy *douceur* for himself, he was also playing a double game in order to retain some of the jewels himself. The fatal mistake Tilleke made was to carry on his negotiations by correspondence, and when, on account of several delays and so on, Mr. Grahlert's suspicions were aroused, and he handed over the correspondence to the police, Tilleke was shadowed, and sufficient grounds obtained for his arrest on the charge of receiving stolen property, the list of the jewels he proposed to hand over to Mr. Grahlert falling far short of the list of those he received from Mong Mong, through his clerk Mong Ong, and he was accordingly arrested. After a hearing of eleven days the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, and Mr. Tilleke was sentenced to six months' hard labour, and his clerk to twelve months. What that means for one who held a prominent position in Bangkok business, social and sporting circles, and whose brother is Judge of the Appeal Court, and Attorney-General of Siam, it is perhaps unnecessary to dwell upon.

The latest news is that Mr. H. G. Gough, editor of the *Siam Observer*, has been tried on a charge of contempt of court by making

certain allegations in a leader commenting on the trial. Mr. Gough was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment, it being added in the order of the Court that in the event of defendant failing to give satisfactory assurances for good behaviour in the future he will be deported from Siam. Execution of the judgment of the Court has been stayed for one day.

SPORTING NOTES.

(Daily Press, 24th October)

After passing Thursday night in Junk Bay, where the s.s. *Coromandel* anchored preparatory to entering the Harbour early yesterday, six of the victorious cricket team and two reserves have returned to the Colony. The two Hancocks have been left behind, one suffering from dengue fever; Pearce has also stayed, and Ward has gone on to Japan, while Cooper returned on the *Athenian*. Owing to the early hour at which they were able to land yesterday, no special festivities marked the home-coming of our cricketers. But nevertheless, the enthusiasm is just as strong as if it had been openly expressed. By all accounts, a great impression has been produced in Shanghai. Naturally, perhaps, the selection of the losing team has been subjected to a good deal of criticism (after the event), and the captaincy of Farbridge has been severely handled. The captain and the team alike, however, may solace themselves with the reflection that, after all, they are only undergoing the usual fate of unexpectedly beaten sides. There was much the same criticism freely expressed in Hongkong when we lost the last Interport match. As a matter of fact I think a certain amount of the latter was justified; whether the same is true of Shanghai in this recent match I am not competent to express an opinion. Our victory last week was too handsome to be explained away. By the way, *Sport and Gossip* amusingly remarks on the thoughtfulness of the band on the Shanghai ground on the second day in striking up "Follow on, follow on!" as the Shanghai team went in for the second time.

The victory of the brothers Hancock in the Interport lawn tennis matches was so complete as to be crushing. Scores of 4-6, 6-2, 9-7, and 6-1 in the Doubles, and of 6-4, 6-0, 6-1 in the Singles, leave no doubt as to supremacy. Shanghai was of course very unlucky in that both N. B. Ramsay and W. A. Turnbull, the two left in the final round of the Shanghai championship this year, were not well enough to play, for their substitutes were certainly not up to their form. But so well did R. Hancock play in the Singles that it does not look as if he need have feared Shanghai's best. In strokes against Buxton Forman he made 89 to 59 in the three sets.

The Hongkong Rifle Association team's score of 874 in the Imperial Rifle Match on Wednesday afternoon, though it is a great improvement on last year's inglorious 825, is still a long way behind the 943 which Hongkong put together in 1901. It is to be feared that 874 will not place our Colony's representatives very high up in the list of competitors for the event. This is the eighth year since the institution of the contest. In 1901 Hongkong was fifth, which was a fine performance, seeing that all corps in the British Empire and teams from any Rifle Association in Ceylon, Singapore, the Channel Islands, the West Indies, and Fiji are eligible as well as ourselves.

There appears to be no assurance for a good prize boxing match to be put up in Hongkong again. The exhibition given at the City Hall by Jones of the *Amphitrite* against Sam Newman of Manila on Thursday night was nothing short of a scandal. I understand he was well backed by his ship's company, not because his abilities were known on board (for he has not been seen "working" much there at all), but because of loyalty on the part of his mates. He was knocked out in the third round. It is a pity we have no Sporting Club in the Colony that can judge of a man's capabilities before allowing him to take his corner in an advertised tournament, for the promoters of recent boxing events here

do not appear to properly consider this aspect of the question. In fairness to his backers, the public and himself, Jones had no right to face Newman in the ring, and probably no one knew that better than he. For the honour of the ring it is to be hoped that the other side were not aware of the fact.

As for the other events, the most notable was the ten-round contest between Barrett, R.E., and Johnstone of the *Amphitrite*. Hard slogging ruled right through. Both men took hard punishment, and they were equally full of grit. Johnstone showed least signs of the fray, but when time was called Barrett was, if anything, the better staying man, and a draw would have been a more proper award than the referee's (Mr. Christie's) decision that the R.E. man was beaten. It is related of Barrett that on one occasion when a well-known and popular patron of the ring met him suffering from a big gash in the head he asked the R.E. with much concern what had happened. "Oh, nothing much," replied Barrett, in his quiet way, "only a cart-wheel ran over it." That is the sense in which Barrett always takes his punishment, and he has taken a lot in Hongkong, always pluckily.

The Wigwam Club's lawn tennis tournament is slowly drawing to its close. The final of the Championship has naturally been delayed by R. Hancock's absence in Shanghai; when he returns he will meet Trimmingham. In the "A" class Singles, Swan and Trimmingham have to settle which of them is to meet Sims in the final round. In the "B" class Lawson has already reached the final stage, but Tibby and Barnes have to meet in the third round, and the winner of them has to play Coppin for the right of meeting Lawson. In the Doubles one tie in the semi-final round awaits completion—Worcester and Swan v. Boyd and Murphy,—and the winners have to try conclusions with Trimmingham and Humphreys, who yesterday upset Brown and Knyvett.

OMPAX.

HONGKONG.

The recognition of M. G. Liebert, Consul for France, as Acting Consul for Russia in Hongkong, is notified in the *Gazette*.

Mr. J. W. Norton Kyshe, Registrar of the Supreme Court, with Mrs. Nor on Kyshe, left for England on the 24th ult. by the s.s. *Coromandel*.

H. E. M. Inagaki, who has just been raised in rank from Minister to Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Japan at Bangkok, passed through Hongkong on Friday on the *Wakasa Maru* on his way south from Japan, with his wife.

It seems to us a very discreditable fact that though there have been 200 Volunteers on Stonecutters' Island and a much larger force of Regulars, there was no doctor within nearer reach of the island than Kowloon, in event of such accidents as occurred on the 24th ult. But for the fortunate possession of a certain amount of ambulance class knowledge by a member of the H.K.V.C. a serious fatality might have been recorded.

The questions at issue between the Government and the Tramway Co. with reference to the laying of the lines throughout the city at last appear to have been satisfactorily settled, for operations in Queen's Road have once more been resumed. At the City Hall the line has now been led into Des Vaux Road, and in the neighbourhood of Wellington Barracks the curved part of the track is nearly completed; while Queen's Road at Arsenal Street has been widened and greatly improved.

With reference to the correspondence which has recently appeared in the *Daily Press* respecting the quality of the gas supplied in the Colony for illuminating purposes, we are informed that the bad lighting complained of is due to the inadequacy of the mains. The Company is at the present time laying new mains in Connaught Road and feeders to the main in Queen's Road. When this work is completed, there will, it is stated, be no cause for complaint on the score of a deficient supply.

Reports from the New Territory state that the gale of wind which prevailed at the beginning of the week did considerable damage to the rice-crops.

The appointments of Mr. A. Seth as Registrar of Companies and Official Trustee, and of Mr. J. W. Jones as Deputy Registrar and Appraiser, are notified in the *Gazette*.

The only cases of communicable disease reported in the Colony last week were four of enteric fever, all outside the city of Victoria. The sufferers were three Europeans and one Japanese. No fatal case of disease was reported.

The Hon. A. M. Thomson, Colonial Treasurer, and Hon. Corshom Stewart left for Shanghai on Friday by the s.s. *Hamburg*. Mr. Thomson returns shortly to take up the post of Acting Colonial Secretary while the Hon. F. H. May assumes the Acting Governorship. A number of other Hongkong residents also went up by the *Hamburg*, some no doubt with the intention of attending the Races.

We understand that the negotiations preparatory to the building of a turbine day-steamer for the Canton River traffic are under way, and a no distant date Parsons's patent will doubtless be introduced to the Far East. It is interesting to note that the special commission suggested by Lord Inverclyde to investigate the economy of the steam turbine and to advise as to its suitability for the two new high speed Cruisers which are to be built, has been appointed by the Cunard Company. The commission will conduct many trials.

It was decided on Thursday, at a meeting of the committee appointed by the leaders of the Chinese community, to look after matters connected with the address to the Governor, etc., that the Chinese community should join in the address presented by the European community to His Excellency, and that there should be no public banquet as had been intended at first when the Chinese community was acting alone. The presentation of a *souvenir* to Lady Blake will, however, be proceeded with by the Chinese, and the question of a permanent memorial to Sir Henry Blake will be settled when it is seen how subscriptions come in.

Messrs. R. Hancock (Hongkong) and E. Buxton Forman (Shanghai) met at the Country Club, Shanghai, on the 17th ult. to decide the Interport lawn tennis singles. The play was so one-sided as to be uninteresting. Hancock admittedly outclassing his opponent; his net play was very fine. Hancock won the first game. Forman the next four, and Hancock then took the set at 6-4. In the second set Hancock won six games off the reel, and as he won the next two he gained altogether 13 games in succession. Forman won the third game in the third set, but Hancock won by 6-1.

It is rumoured that the Police are going to take over the Bay View Hotel again as a station, doubtless because of the increased traffic that will follow the completion of the tramway in that district, coupled with the many cases of robbery that have taken place recently on the Shaikwan Road. As the Metropole Hotel has been acquired for the purposes of a brewery there would then be no hostelry on the Shaikwan Road, and it will certainly fail to attract so many cycling and ricksha parties as it does now.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 25th October, were 20 non-Chinese and 67 Chinese to the former, and 54 non-Chinese and 2,017 Chinese to the latter institution.

It has been arranged that the new Jubilee Hospital on Barker Road will be formally opened by H.E. the Governor on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 3rd November, when the works carried out by the Jubilee Committee, namely the Hospital and Road from Kennedy Town to Aberdeen, will be handed over by the Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, to the Government.

Shortly after midnight on the 24th ult., a Chinese coolie observed smoke issuing from the ventilator of one of the Wanchai godowns and gave the alarm at the fire station, a hand engine and posse of firemen soon being despatched to the scene. It was discovered that a small fire had broken out in a godown wherein cases of piece-goods were stored, but the timely appearance of the firemen with their quenching apparatus soon put out the fire, and it is understood the damage done is not very serious.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Once more Kweilin has been captured by the Kwangsi rebels—on paper. Perhaps it is only the same story repeated, but this time we read it in the columns of our French contemporary at Shanghai.

The Tientsin detachment of the Sherwood Foresters has changed places with the Peking section of the regiment. The Tientsin men commenced their route-march to Peking on the 16th ult.

According to a Japanese native paper, the New York Sun Life of Canada, and Mutual Life Insurance Co.'s branch offices in Tokyo and Yokohama have received orders from their general offices not to accept insurance on the lives of military and naval men in Japan, China, and Russia.

A Chinese paper in Shanghai is informed that the Board of Rites has been requested by the Imperial Household to cease all preparations for an elaborate celebration of the Empress Dowager's 70th birthday next year, as her Majesty has personally commanded that only the usual ceremonies as carried out on ordinary birthdays are to be performed.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* publishes the following telegram dated Yokohama, 18th October:—Some time ago a number of steamer companies received orders from the Government to retain some of their ships in Japan for the eventual transport of troops. During the last few days all companies were informed that there was no longer any necessity of retaining their ships.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* writes that neither Wu Ting-fang's appointment as Vice-President of the Board of Commerce in the capital nor the establishment of this new board raises expectations among Chinese merchants, who are fully aware that the Government is not so much influenced by recognition of the country's financial and commercial necessities as by the desire to create new posts for the ever-increasing number of officials and at the same time to increase the Court's opportunities of lucrative patronage.

The following telegram has been received at the Japanese Foreign Office, Tokyo, being dated Japanese Consulate, Vladivostok, October 10:—According to an order (No. 58) issued by the Viceroy of the Russian Far East on the 10th of October, all military and naval *attachés* of the Russian Legations in Japan, China and Corea are placed under the control of the Viceroy, as directed by Imperial Ordinance on the 30th of August, and these *attachés* will henceforth address all reports to the Viceroy.

Prince Tuan, says the *Shanghai Times*, upon the pretext of his present poor health, sent for his son Pu Shun, the former Heir-Apparent to go to him from Peking. Prince Tsai Ying (?) at first kept the matter secret and asked the opinion of a certain prince (presumably Prince Ching), and finally asked the Princess Jung Hsu to take a favourable opportunity to pump the Empress Dowager as to what ought to be done with this troublesome youth.

In the past it has been the custom to limit the examinations for the bursaries awarded by the Shanghai S. Andrews Society to children of Scotch parentage attending the Public School in Shanghai, while boys and girls studying at other schools were debarred from entrance to the examinations. In future, as the result of the unanimous resolution of the annual meeting of the Society in Shanghai last week, all Scotch children here, whatever school they attend, will be given equal opportunities of winning the bursaries.

The *Shanghai Times* "went one better" than its London namesake with regard to the Peking plot, for it published the following telegram dated Peking, 14th October:—"At the same time that the wire was laid into the Legation magazine someone removed the breech-block of the 4.7 gun which defends the Carriage Park. The missing piece has since been traced to a place in the Chinese city and recovered. There was a battery alongside the wire, but it had not been connected. The whole affair is enshrouded in mystery, and is being rigidly investigated. We still await the result of that rigid investigation of the enshrouding mystery."

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI.—Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular of 16th October reports as follows:—Since our last printed Tea Market advice, dated 1st instant: BLACK TEA.—We have to quote a quiet market, with firmer prices for Teas costing Tls. 17-18. There are buyers in the field for lower grades at Tls. 13½-15½, but quantity on hand is small so that Teamen are not ready sellers.

Per picul,
Ningchow 2,834 half-chests at Tls. 14
Oonan 2,180 " " 13-15½
Oopack 1,500 " " 13-28
Total Settlements to date:—34,100 half-chests against 46,696 half-chests last year. Arrivals to date:—40,583 half-chests, against 74,233 half-chests last year.

Telegraphic advices from London give the deliveries of Congou to September 30th:—

Deliveries of Congou to Sept. 30th 1,550,000 lbs. Stock " " 9,200,000

Green Tea.—Pingsuey.—A fair business has been done in chops at Tls. 27-36, showing firm prices. A large business has been done in single lines at unchanged prices, second gunpowder fetching Tls. 28-33. First Imperials Tls. 37-41 and Second Imperials Tls. 31-34.

Country Tea.—The quality of most of the late arrivals is a sure indication that the supplies are drawing nearly to an end. We have to report a large business passing during the interval and prices have advanced Tls. 1-1½ per picul for anything above "Common." Buyers for England have been more in evidence lately and a fair proportion of the late settlements are intended for shipment to that market. The arrivals of Country Tea will be in excess of last year. Local Packs:—The quality of recent arrivals is poor, but a fair business has passed at fully previous rates. We estimate the excess of Local Packs over last year at 20,000 half chests. Hysons.—The market for first Hysons is active without any material change in prices. Second Hysons are wanted, but there is no stock. Foong Moes and Sou Mees.—A large business has been done during the interval for shipment to Batoum at much firmer rates. Good Sou Mees selling at Tls. 85-95. Medium Sou Mees at Tls. 78-85, and lower grades at Tls. 60-70. Good Foong Moes are fetching Tls. 65-70, medium Tls. 55-60, common grades Tls. 45-50. Settlements since the 1st instant:—

	Per picul.
Pingsuey ... 14,676 half-chests at Tls.	27 to 36
Moyune ... 7,232 " "	27 " 40½
Tienkai 9,346 " "	28 " 54½
Pychow ... 2,134 " "	23½ " 27½
Local Packed 2,444 " "	24½ " 28½

YOKOHAMA, 15th October.—May 1st to October 15th has been as follows:—

	Current Season, 1902-1903.
To New York and East	7,953,507 7,405,539
" Chicago and West...	9,138,870 7,014,639
" San Francisco and Pacific Coast.....	4,745,416 2,531,432
" Canada	2,470,541 1,990,078
" Europe, &c.....	186,341 182,517
lbs.....	24,694,675 19,074,205

SILK.

SHANGHAI.—Messrs. A. B. Burkill & Sons' Circular of the 22nd October reports as follows:—The home markets are easier. Gold Kiling is quoted at Lyons at Fcs. 36.30. Raw Silk.—There is still no business to report in Tsatlees, and the markets generally are very flat. Yellow Silks.—A few settlements are recorded, but prices are extremely high. Hand Filatures.—A few settlements are recorded, but only a very little business is possible at these prices. Steam Filatures:—Nothing is doing. Waste Silk.—Very strong demand for Tussah waste, and we hear that as much as Tls. 30 have been paid for 60 to 40, Kading Frisonets have found buyers at Tls. 38½ for whole bales.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 30th October.—Some demands having come forward, the prices are slightly advancing.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.65 to \$3.70 pels.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.65 to 7.70 "
Do. No. 1, Brown.....	6.05 to 6.10 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.55 to 8.60 "
Do. " 2, White.....	7.60 to 7.65 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.90 to 5.95 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.70 to 5.75 "
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.50 to 12.55 "
Shekloong "	10.60 to 10.65 "

RICE.

HONGKONG 31st October.—The downward tendency continues market being dull.

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.95 to \$3.00
" Round, Good quality	4.00 to 4.65
" Long	4.75 to 4.80
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.35 to 3.40
" Garden, " No. 1	4.00 to 4.05
" White,	4.75 to 4.80
" Fine Cargo	5.10 to 5.15

The Manila market, according to latest advices continues very dull, and though some of the stocks of Rangoon have been shipped to Japan, prices are on better. Second Saigon was selling on the 15th inst. at \$0.50 per picul f. o. b., and Rangoon to arrive was offered at same price, with very little demand.

COAL.

According to latest advices the Manila market is well supplied and small lots have been sold at \$12.75 placed alongside wharf.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 30th October.—

Quotations are:—Allowance net. to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$9 0 to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$950 to — do.
Malwa Older	\$1,000 to — do.
Malwa Y. Old	\$1,050 to — do.
Persian fine quality	\$810 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$820 to — do.
Patna New	\$1,097½ to — per chest.
Patna Old	to — do.
Benares New	\$1,095 to — do.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

SHANGHAI.—Messrs. Noel Murray & Co. report for the week ending 22nd October, as follows:—There is no change to report in our market so far as "Spot" cargo is concerned. The merchants, having apparently no orders in hand, show not the slightest inclination to operate and the dealers on their part are unwilling to indulge in speculative purchases in the absence of a consumptive demand. The uncertainty regarding Exchange tends to cause both dealers and merchants to act cautiously, and it is not at all improbable that this dull and dragging state of affairs may continue for some time. Prices are undoubtedly high and stocks in the consuming districts will most probably be allowed to run very low, in the hope that by playing a waiting game it will be possible to replenish them on better terms later on. For Spring arrival, however, a quiet general business is being done in Grey Shirtings, Fine White Shirtings, Plain and Figured Cotton Italians, and we are informed that a few small orders are being placed for Printed Sateens. There is, however, practically no demand for Steam Prints, which at one time went in such large quantities and it is said that the Natives are gradually beginning to prefer a much better class of Fancies than formerly. Although Native Interest is nominally about 6 per cent per annum, the trade finds great difficulty in obtaining facilities from the Banks, and consequently clearances from first hands are far from good but it is said that fair quantities are going forward from Native-held stocks. There is little or no change in the position in Tientsin, although the Natives here say that stocks there are being steadily reduced. Newchwang remains very dull, for in addition to political troubles it is reported that there is a great deal of sickness there. It is, however, very satisfactory to be able to record that the Bean crop, which is the mainstay of Newchwang, is an excellent one, so possibly we shall see some improvement here shortly. It is reported that the Rice crop, in Corea is one of the best on record so, provided no political complications arise, it is to be hoped there will be some revival in demand at no very distant date. For the River Ports some 4,000 bales of India yarn have been booked this week; but for other goods there is but a meagre demand. The Rice crop at Wuhu is reported to be an excellent one. The New York Market is reported to be very firm and yet general lines of 4 yards Sheeting have been settled for Spring arrival at prices somewhere in the neighbourhood of 8½/- at 8/3 c.f.i. In other goods we hear of nothing doing. Advices from Manchester report a firmer tendency, although Cotton in Liverpool is down, latest quotations being 5.68d. for Mid. American and 8½d. for Egyptian. Manufacturers are apparently trying to improve their margin of profit, but buyers show no inclination to respond. Exports for the fortnight ending 16th instant are wired privately as 6 Million yards, which is very satisfactory. There has been a sudden enquiry for Indian Cotton, and some 8/10,000 bales are reported to have been bought.

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 31st October.

Beans	\$ 3 @ 31
Borax	\$ 16 @ 20
Camphor (China)	\$ 90 @ 95
" (Formosa)	\$110 @ 120
Cassia (First quality)	\$ 25
" (Second ")	\$ 16
" Oil	\$170 @ 175
Cloves	\$ —
Fennel Seed Oil	\$220 @ 320
Galangal	\$ 3 @ 6
Garlic	\$ —
Glue	\$ 23
Grapes	\$ 20 @ 22
Ivory	\$300 @ 600
Kississ	\$ 19 @ 21
Olibanum	\$ 7 @ 25
Rosa Oil	\$ 75 @ 225
Saltpetre	\$ 11 @ 12
Sandal wood	\$ 20 @ 32
" Oil	\$20 @ 375
Senna Leaves	\$ 4 @ 7
Sugar Candy	\$ 11 @ 16
Vermilion	\$ 87½
Wax	\$ 42 @ 48

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Agamemnon*, sailed on 14th October For Trieste:—50 bales waste silk. For Marseilles —100 bales waste silk. For Marseilles and Havre:—5 packages hats. For London and/or Hamburg:—25 casks preserves. For London:—507 packages tea (@ Amoy, Particulars unknown), 142 packages tea, Congou (lb. 2,982), 1,178 packages tea, cented Caper (lbs. 24,738), 206 casks preserves, 25 casks soy, 30 cases pitch, 30 cases curios, 12 cases cigars, 50 cases ginger, 2 cases machinery, 234 cases shells, 75 bales waste silk, 1,150 bales hemp, 3 bales leaf tobacco, 70 bales feathers, 73 packages blackwoodware, 105 packages hides, 29 packages paint, 86 bags gum. For London and/or Glasgow:—250 casks ginger, 200 cases ginger. For Glasgow:—100 casks ginger-casks 25 soy. For Antwerp:—250 bales hemp. 840 packages merchandise, 84 bales canes.

Per steamer *Idomeneus*, sailed on 14th October For Liverpool:—393 waste silk, etc., 100 casks ginger, 10 cases essential oil, 3 packages sundries For Manchester:—175 bales waste silk.

Per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, sailed on 24th October. For London:—911 packages tea, 75 bales waste silk, 10 bales raw silk, 6 cases silks, 12 cases rice paper, 26 cases chinaware, 60 bales cane, 326 rolls mats and matting, 5 cases hair, 40 cases dry preserves, 1 case curios, 1 case cigars. For London and/or Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—150 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—bales 35 waste silk, 20 bales raw silk, 3 cases birdfeathers.

HANKOW, 14th October.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 35.00
Do., seconds	" 30.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	" 24.50
Do., do. 10/15 lbs. }	" 24.50
Do., do. 35/60 " }	" 24.50
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour, average 2 lbs., 50 p. c. short, 30 p. c. med. and 20 p. c. long hair	" 63.00
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" 11.00
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	" 13.50
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 12.50
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 12.70
Jute	" 4.60
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 12.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Machong	" 11.90
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 12.50
Animal Tallow	" 11.75
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 20.00
Do., Plum do.	" 22.00
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	" 20.00
Do., do. do. Wild Duck ..	" 25.00

MANILA.—The latest quotations by mail are:—

HEMP.	
Albay, current	\$19½
Leyte, do.	\$24½
Daet, do.	\$16½
Na. Caceres (Catanduanes)	\$20
Sorsogon	\$24.00
SUGAR	
Iloilo No. 1	\$5½
" " 2	\$5¼
" " 3	\$4½
" Assorted	\$5
COPRA.	
Sun-dried	\$7½
Laguna	\$7
F. M. Manila	\$7½
RICE.	
Saigon Blanco	\$6.75
Rangoon	\$6.50
LEAF TOBACCO.	
per quintal	
Isabela, 1901 — 1st to 5th class	\$15 to \$12
Cagayan	\$11 " \$38
Isabela, 1902 — " " " "	\$16 " \$36
Cagayan	\$10 " \$32
Barili 1st class. Few stocks offered	\$13.50
" 2nd "	\$11.00
" 3rd "	\$9.50
Abra, Norte. No stocks.	
Union "	

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 30th October, 1903.—No change of importance has occurred in the general condition of our market during the past week, and there is but little fresh business to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been booked at the slightly reduced rate of \$63½. London has suffered a severe decline to £61. Nationals continue in request at \$18½, no shares being obtainable under \$30.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are quiet at \$492½. China Traders are reported to have been booked at \$58 and \$60½, closing with probable buyers at \$60. North Chinas, Yangtszes, and Cantons are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are procurable at \$320. Chinas close steady at \$9½ after sales at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkongs, Cantons and Macaos have sold, and can still be obtained to a small extent, at \$31½. Indo Chinas have dropped to \$77 sellers without finding buyers. China and Manilas have been booked at \$19. Douglas-es have sold, and continue in request, at \$30. Star Ferries are still procurable at \$26 and \$16 for the old and new issues respectively. Shell Transports have sold at 19s. and close with further sellers at the rate.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been booked at \$96. Luzons are quiet and without change.

MINING.—Raubs have sold at \$8, and more shares are obtainable at that rate. Punjoms and Jebeus are unchanged and without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been booked at \$201 and close in further request. A sale at \$209 for February is also reported. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves can be placed, to a small extent, at \$36, holders at present asking \$87. New Amoy Docks are quiet at \$38. Farnhams after reported sales in the North at Tls. 110 have advanced to Tls. 117½ buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue steady with some sellers at \$154. Kowloon Lands are neglected at \$38. West points have sold and close steady at \$52½. Humphreys Estates are procurable to a small extent at \$10½. Hongkong Hotels are procurable at \$147 with probable buyers at \$146. Oriente Hotels are on offer at \$58.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs continue in demand at \$14½. The Northern stocks are unchanged and without local business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements can be placed at \$22½, and Watsons to a small extent at \$14½. United Asbestos are wanted at \$9 (ordinary) and \$210 (founders). China Providents have declined to \$9 with sales and further sellers. Powells have been booked at \$8½ and close with probable buyers at the rate.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks —		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$630 £61
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$28½, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$28½, buyers
Found. Shares	£1	\$10
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$5½, sellers
Canton Hongkong Ice	\$10	\$10, nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40, sellers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$9½, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$5, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$96
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$250
Philippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 40, sellers
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 40
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$13½, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47½
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$22½
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$12 25
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6½, sellers
K. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ltd.	\$100	\$320, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$147, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$250, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$87, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$201, sales & buy.
Insurance —		
Canton	\$50	\$175
China Fire	\$60	\$90
China Traders	\$25	\$60
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$320, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 216, seller
Union	\$100	\$492½
Yangtsze	\$60	\$135
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$154, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$10.75, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$35
West Point Building	\$50	\$52½, sales
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$15
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$6 0, sellers
Jebeu	\$5	50 cents, sellers
Punjom	\$11	\$1.50,
Do. Preference	\$1	30 cents
Raubs	18/10	\$8, sales & sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$38
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$58, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$8½, sales
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$19, sales
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$30, sales & buyers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$31½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$77, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	£1	19/-, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co., Ltd.	Tls. 10½	Tls. 117½, buyers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50, nominal
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	nominal
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$210, buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$23, buyers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14½, buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 23rd October.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their share report state:—We have a good business to report for the week under review, chiefly in Farnham, Boyds, which show considerable fluctuation; cash shares having fallen to Tls. 110. The market has risen and is now steady at Tls. 120. Indos have weakened and Langkats have remained very steady. The T. T. rate to-day is 2/7, 3/8. Banks.—H. & S. Banks.—No business reported locally. The market in the south is quoted \$632½. The London rate is £66. Marine Insurance.—The only business reported is in China Traders at \$60. Yangtszes are enquired for at quotations. Fire Insurance.—No business

reported. Shipping.—Indos opened on the 16th with sales for October Sett. at Tls. 60 and 60½ December. On the 17th October shares were placed at Tls. 59½, December at Tls. 60 and 61. On the 20th at 5½, 1/4 and 59½ for October. On the 21st at 58½ and 58 October, and 59 December. A transaction is reported in Shells at £1 cash. Docks & Wharves (S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co.)—A very large business has been done in these shares. On the 16th the market opened, with sales for October Sett. at Tls. 117½ and 118; 118½ November; 120 117½ December; 117½ January and 125/120 March. On the 17th at Tls. 115 cash, 115/114/112½ October; 117½ December; 120/118 March. On the 19th at 110/111 cash, 111 October 112½, 113, 115 December; 120, 117½ March. At this point the market firmed and shares were done on the 20th at 116 cash, 115 October; 115/117½ December; 120 March. On the 21st again at 116 cash, 117½ October; 117½, 118½, 119 December; 121, March. On the 22nd cash shares were placed at 119/120; 119½ November; 122½ December; 120 January; 122½ February and 125 March. At close the market is strong at Tls. 120 buyers. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have been placed at Tls. 217½. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—Raubs at \$8½ is the only business reported. Lands.—Shanghais have been placed at Tls. 101 and 102, and later at Tls. 101. Humphreys have been placed from Hongkong at \$11. Industrial.—In Cotton stock Ewos have changed hands at Tls. 32½ and International Cottons at Tls. 25 and 22½. Shanghai Paper and pulps. Business is reported at Tls. 110. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. The market opened on the 16th with sales at Tls. 267½ October; and 275 December; 287½ March. On the 17th at 267½ October; 287½ March. On the 16th at 270 cash and October; 272½ November; 287½ March. On the 20th at 270/271½ cash and October; 275 November; 287½ March. On the 21st 270 cash, 272½ October and on the 22nd at 272½ October; 275, 278½, 272½ November; 278½ March. Sumatras have changed hands at Tls. 51. Stores and Hotels.—Weeks have been placed at \$22. Hall and Holtz at \$34. Astor House Hotels at \$26.3/4. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 67. This is the only business under this heading. Loans.—Municipal 6 per cent. Debentures have been placed at par.

EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, 31st October.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	232
Credits 4 months' sight	235½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	188½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	44½
Credits, 60 days' sight	46½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138
Bank, on demand	138½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	138
Bank, on demand	138½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	7½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	892
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	nominal
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	111
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	61
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	
\$10.9	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	
57 6	
BAR SILVER, per oz.	
27½	

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Antenor, Pak Ling, Tantalus, Prometheus, Dardanus.
FOR LONDON.—Coromandel, Pak Ling, Antenor, Wakasa Maru, Hitachi Maru, Tantalus, Prometheus.
FOR LIVERPOOL.—Ningchow, Achilles.
FOR MARSEILLES.—Yarra, Pak Ling, Wakasa Maru, Ningchow, Ulysses, Prometheus, Dardanus.
FOR BREMEN.—Roon.
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Aragonia, Nurnburg, Saxonia, Marbury, Sueria.
FOR NEW YORK.—Hermiston, Kurdistan, Seneca.
FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—Indrapura.
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Oanfa, Iyo Maru, Shawmut.
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of India, Athenian.
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Taiyuan, Empire.
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Kamsang.

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

October—
 ARRIVALS.
 22, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
 23, Australian, British str., put back.
 23, Blenheim, British cruiser, from Japan.
 23, Brilliant, British 4-m. bge., from Shanghai.
 23, Dr. J. de Austria, U.S. g.b.t., from Taku.
 23, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Norw. str., from Manila.
 23, Selsdon, British str., from Newcastle.
 24, Anna, Norwegian str., from Quinhon.
 24, Empire, British str., from Sydney.
 24, Chingwo, British str., from San Francisco.
 24, Hailan, French str., from Hoihow.
 24, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 25, Gawa, German str., from Hongay.
 25, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 25, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.
 25, Kinshin Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 25, M. Struve, German str., from Moji.
 25, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Manila.
 25, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
 25, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 25, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Bombay Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 26, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 26, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 26, China, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 26, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Haitan, British str., from Foochow.
 26, Haoui, French str., from Haiphong.
 26, Hongwan I, British str., from Straits.
 26, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 26, Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Phra Chom Kuo, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 26, Pronto, German str., from Newchwang.
 26, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 26, Suevia, German str., from Hamburg.
 26, Wuchang, British str., from Iloilo.
 27, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 27, Clara Jensen, Ger. str., from Newchwang.
 27, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 27, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.
 27, Kansu, British str., from Chinkiang.
 27, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 27, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 27, Pakling, British str., from Foochow.
 27, Roan, German str., from Shanghai.
 27, Salamanca, British str., from Singapore.
 27, Victoria, Swedish str., from Sourabaya.
 28, Atholl, British str., from Sourabaya.
 28, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
 29, Aspern, Austrian g.b.t., from Singapore.
 29, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 29, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 29, Hamburg, German str., from Hamburg.
 29, Jelunga, British str., from Rangoon.
 29, Perla, British str., from Cebu.
 29, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 29, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
 29, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 29, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 31, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 30, Hinsang, British str., from Tegal.
 30, Java, British str., from Foochow.
 30, Taisang, British str., from Swatow.
 30, Waterwitch, British d.v., from Sandakan.
 31, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
 31, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 31, Formosa, British str., from Canton.
 31, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 31, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 31, Saxonia, German str., from Shanghai.
 October—
 DEPARTURES.
 23, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 23, Breiz Huel, French str., for Singapore.
 23, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 23, Kawachi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 23, Lyeemoon, Germ. str., for Shanghai.
 23, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 24, Coromandel, British str., for Europe.
 24, Franz Ferdinand, Aust. str., for Trieste.
 24, Freiburg, German str., for Calcutta.
 24, Kohsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
 24, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 24, Kong-Beng, German str., for Pakhoi.
 24, Kwangtab, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 24, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 24, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 24, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 25, Australian, British str., for Australia.
 25, Hikosan Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 25, Indrani, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Shanghai, German str., for Swatow.
 26, Amphitrite, British cruiser, for Mrs Bay;

26, Anna, Norwegian str., for Vladivostock.
 26, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Hupah, British str., for Cebu.
 26, Nanshan, British str., for Amoy.
 26, Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
 26, Seward, U.S. transport, for Manila.
 26, Taiyuan, British str., for Australia.
 28, Daphne, German str., for Amoy.
 28, Empire, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Haimun, British str., for Amoy.
 28, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
 28, Hopsang, British str., for Hongay.
 28, Indravelli, British str., for Portland.
 28, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 28, Nanshan, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Nanyang, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Quarta, German str., for Mauritius.
 28, Ulabran, Norwegian str., for Moji.
 29, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 29, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 29, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 29, Kansu, British str., for Canton.
 29, Mandarin Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 29, Pakhoi, British str., for Chefoo.
 29, Pakling, British str., for London.
 29, Roan, German str., for Europe.
 31, Bombay Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 30, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 30, Chiynen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 30, Hamburg, German str., for Shanghai.
 30, Haoui, French str., for Haiphong.
 30, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 30, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 30, Phranang, German str., for Bangkok.
 31, Suevia, German str., for Yokohama.
 30, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 31, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Bourbon, British str., for Saigon.
 31, Chunsang, British str., for Siagap re.
 31, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 31, Glory, British battleship, for Kobe.
 31, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 31, Hilsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Hongkong Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 31, Java, British str., for London.
 31, Kaifong, British str., for Iloilo.
 31, Kinshin Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 31, Phra Chom Klao, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 31, Rohilla Maru, Japanese str., for Manila.
 31, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 31, Taro Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 31, Tenner, British str., for Manila.
 31, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 31, Wakasa Maru, Japanese str., for London.
 31, Wuchang, British str., for Iloilo.

PASSENGER LIST

ARRIVED.

Per *Coromandel*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. Lemm and infant, Mrs. W. W. Cox and two children, Mrs. and Miss E. N. Hall, Miss J. R. Hall, Mrs. W. B. Lavenport, Mr. and Mrs. W. King, Mrs. Stansbury and infant, Lieut. and Mrs. Walker and infant, Lieuts. Smito, R.A., and Lumsden, R.A., Messrs. H. Dryden, Sheppard Stevens, H. Knigler, W. E. Craig, G. Gracomo, G. Giachetti, P. Bozzello, O. Bruno, W. C. D. Turner, J. W. Dixon, H. Arthur, E. A. Bonnar, R. E. O. Bird, A. R. Lowe, T. C. Gray, and M. M. J. Mahomed; for Singapore, Mrs. Bertram and infant; for Bombay, Messrs. A. C. Vernieux, W. G. O'Sullivan, H. O. Galvin, and A. M. Periora.
 Per *Roan*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. R. Fisch, T. Rowan, T. Adair, Lorezo Rodriguez and family, and Carmen Careres and family; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Baretto and Mr. Chas. Choi; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Nas Rawano; from Shanghai, Mrs. Emma Parsons, Mrs. Leloutre, Miss Forster, Messrs. Schroeder, Wylant, Alfr. Canon, and T. Nyelle; from Yokohama, for Singapore, Mrs. Terfilar, Major S. W. Fourtaint, Messrs. Luddimig, Sessii, Svasti, and Cham; for Penang, Mr. Fausto Gritti; for Genoa, H. E. Graf Bandissin, Misses Dimonchy and Afn. Hase, Messrs. John Spiegelberg, and A. Simon; from Kobe, for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Jones; for Bremerhaven, Grafen Bandissin; from Nagasaki, for Genoa, Mrs. C. Ballestrini and Mr. Jan Hempel; for Bremen, Messrs. Nicol Pett and Ernst Schunck; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Messrs. Carl Wolff, A. Petersen, A. Kunz, T. Klopsch, S. Newhouse, T. de Haas, and A. Rook; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. T. F.

Seamen; for Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. T. Suckermann; for Genoa, Mrs. Masironi, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. May, Mrs. Pym, Capt. Hoffmann, Rev. Pasque, Misses Joh. de Haas and A. Lazzali; for Bremen, Capt. Ad. Ahlborn, Messrs. M. v. Minstrow and A. Müller; for London, Mrs. Chalmers, Mrs. Gidders, Capt. Hunter, Miss Rowe, and Mr. Thornton.

Per *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, Mrs. Pitcher, Mrs. Woodruff and child, Revs. M. Bolton and G. Cousins, Major French, Misses J. R. Duryee, A. Duryee, J. W. Craven, Lawson, and H. Lewis, Messrs. A. B. Howes, J. B. O'Bryan, Thomas, G. L. Brighton, and G. Lloyd; from Yokohama, Rev. Knigh and Mr. A. Humphreys; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Gregg, Mrs. Peace, Misses Leadbetter and M. Leadbetter, Messrs. R. N. Norton, and G. Megaw; from Shanghai, Mrs. Cornell, Miss E. Jensen, Messrs. Mitchell, J. D. Browne, F. J. Lias, H. Hancock, L. Goetschel, H. A. F. Mac-ray, and H. Gerrard.

Per *Hamburg*, for Hongkong, from Hamburg, Mrs. M. Buck and children, Mrs. Lohman and child, Mrs. B. Danielsen, Miss A. Sutro, Messrs. Ch. Thiessen, Joh. Behuke, J. Johannsen, J. Mayer, Fr. Spiess, and Th. Jacobsen; from Southampton, Mrs. R. Taylor and child, Mrs. M. B. Hooper, Mrs. A. Bain, Miss M. Borland, Messrs. McIver and A. U. Diss; from Genoa, Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. D. J. Jones and child, Misses Schaub, L. Bentinger, A. Beckenhoff, and E. Gussmann, Messrs. G. Schulz, Spencer Duff, E. Georg, A. Schröder, A. Sauter, P. Schmidt, J. Hunter, and A. Teonio; from Naples, Major Casatt and Mr. Dyer Ball; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Duval and Mr. C. L. Duval; from Singapore, Capt. Molloy, Mr. D. Haskell, Mrs. Cuo, and Mrs. Jamada.

DEPARTED.

Per *Coromandel*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mrs. and Miss Warren, Messrs. G. H. Lacon, S. Yamaguchi, and Y. Kasuda; for Colombo, Mrs. Williams, Miss Robertson, and Mr. Boecking; for Brindisi, Messrs. G. Banck and H. Neustadt; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Nortonkyshe; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mrs. Bertram and infant; for Bombay, Messrs. A. C. Vernieux, W. G. O'Sullivan, H. O. Galvin, and A. N. Pereira.

Per *Roan*, for Bremen, &c., from Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Hauptmann Augstein, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Card, Mrs. Chalmers and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Clarke, Major and Mrs. S. W. Fountain and Miss Fountain, Mrs. Gelders, Mrs. Hornell and children, Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Jones, Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Lallo, Mr. and Mrs. Maclean, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. May, Mrs. Mascioni, Mrs. Pym, Mrs. E. Ram and child, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Regierungsrat Salomon, Mr. and Mrs. A. Schmidt, Mrs. A. Schor, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Seaman, Mr. and Mrs. Suckermann, Kontre-Admiral Graf Bandissin, Capt. Ad. Ahlborn, Hoffmann, and Hunter and child, Dr. F. E. Fristoh, Rev. Paqué, Misses Crossloy, Geskin, Joh. de Haas, Hatch, A. Lazzali, and Rowe, Messrs. E. P. Arnold Forster, B. L. Berton, W. D. Brymer, Cham, R. W. Clarke, E. Ferargo, Eugen Frank, M. Ghashan, Fausto Gritti, de Gruyter, Gustave Heeren, W. L. Hildburgh, H. Hildburgh, J. Klopsch, A. Kunz, J. L. de Lanvy, M. v. Minstrow, A. Müller, A. Petersen, L. J. Roscam Abbing, Savasiddhi, Sessiri, A. Simon, John Spiegelberg, Svasti, Thomson, W. Wesenfeld, A. M. Wilson, and Carl Wolff.

Per *Hamburg*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. J. Ellinger, Mr. and Mrs. Moxon, Mrs. B. Arral, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Gedge, Mrs. F. J. Newell, Mr. and Mrs. Goldstein, Hon. A. M. Thomson, Hon. G. Stewart, Capt. O. P. Marshall, Miss Souza, Messrs. H. A. J. Macray, Verondart, P. Heyden, F. Reiber, Bosustow, Davies, Greenstock, Brown, Winney, E. H. Sharp, Pelling, O. Sutro, F. Loges, H. Robertson, Morgan Philipps, E. Owen, A. Cameron, Baillies, Roberts, Godfray, S. Weinberg, Dalburgo, Schroeder, and E. Gulamal; for Nagasaki, Messrs. Saiki and Maruba; for Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Talati, Mr. Nechtigall; for Yokohama, Capt. Denaru and Mr. F. W. Speidel.

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